

**RECEIPTS.**—And, first taking the income, a brief explanation will be given wherever there is material deviation from the corresponding entries in the Revised Estimates of the year preceding.

The branches in which a decrease is anticipated will be noticed together, and then those in which an improvement is expected.

And first in the opium revenue it will be seen that the net income is taken at £420,000 less than in the expiring year; as compared, however, with the original budget of that year, there is an increase of £250,000. This needs explanation. The fact is that it has been the practice for some years to

	£
1868-69	6,733,254
1869-70	6,130,874
1870-71	6,031,034
1871-72	7,657,213
1872-73	6,870,423
1873-74	6,323,599
1874-75 Revised Estimate	6,170,000
Average	6,559,485

estimate at a much lower sum than the actual average income. In the margin is given the net opium income for seven years. It has never in any one of these years fallen below Six millions. Nevertheless, since 1871-72 the estimate of the net opium revenue has not been put above Five and a half millions. Without departing from the policy of taking a low and safe estimate, the experience of recent years is found to justify a higher amount, and a somewhat nearer approach to the minimum income above shewn. It has therefore been determined to estimate for Five and three quarter millions. This estimate will still leave a large margin as compared with the average income; and, as compared even with the lowest of the seven years, the difference amounts to £281,000, so that it may be held to be sufficiently safe. It will be necessary, however, to bear in mind that the eventual excess over estimate that has for some years been derived from opium must (if we have such an excess) be less than it otherwise would have been by the amount of enhancement which has now been assumed in advance.

It may be convenient here to consider the expenditure under this head, which is almost wholly for Bengal opium. The charges have risen in the present year (1874-75) to £2,350,000, owing to the last crop having been much more productive than was anticipated. The area under the poppy at the present time is very large (543,727 acres); the quantity that will be produced is, however, altogether dependent on the season continuing to be favorable; the cost of the opium as purchased from the cultivator may therefore possibly exceed the estimate, £2,300,000. But the policy of Government has recently been declared, not to increase, but rather to contract and centralize, the area under poppy cultivation; some saving may accordingly be anticipated in the advances to be given for the next sowings of 1875-76.

It may also be noticed here that Government have now accumulated a reserve stock of above 10,000 chests of opium, which will make the department to a considerable extent independent of the ordinary variations of season, and prevent the fluctuations that might otherwise arise in the number of chests brought yearly to sale in the Calcutta market, and the hurtful speculation consequent on such uncertainty. Notwithstanding the reserve (which it will be the object of Government still further to increase), it is not yet possible to say what number of chests will be offered for sale in 1876; but this much is certain, that should there be no unforeseen failure in the present crop, the quantity will not be less than 45,000; and it will not under any circumstances exceed 48,000. The exact number will be notified, as heretofore, after the crop has been gathered and manufactured. An average price per chest of Rs. 1,121 has been assumed for the purposes of budget calculation. The estimate for Malwa opium is that duty will be paid on 45,833 chests.

**Contributions from Native States.**—The diminution of £39,000 arises from the absence of the arrears which have swollen the previous year's revenue, and from the capitalization of the Maharaja Holkar's tribute being nearly concluded. An annual amount of £23,816 has, for some years past, been paid by His Highness: this year it was but one-half of that sum; and next year it will entirely cease.

**Mint.**—A diminution of £61,000 arises from cessation for this year of copper coinage.

**Marine.**—Decrease of £85,000; it has been explained that there was an extraordinary receipt in England in 1874-75.

*Receipts for Superannuation Allowances.*—The decrease, £60,000, is due to cessation of an item formerly credited from one of the Military funds now exhausted.

*Gain by exchange.*—Less by £45,000 from the stimulating effect of the Bengal famine having ceased to swell the traffic on guaranteed Railways, as will be further explained below.

*Miscellaneous.*—£45,000 decrease: fluctuations always occur under this head.

*Army.*—It is expected that the receipts will be less than in the current year by £32,000.

INCREASED RECEIPTS  
AS COMPARED  
WITH 1874-75.

The increased receipts recapitulated below will be found (leaving opium out of account) very nearly to balance these items of loss.

*Land Revenue.*—The gross revenue is placed at £21,379,000, being an advance upon the current year's Regular Estimate of £296,000. The present estimate has been framed with care by the various Local Governments; and revised in the Financial Office with much caution. The improvement in recent years is chiefly noticeable in Madras, the North-Western Provinces (nearly £300,000 in the last six years), and in Burmah. Bengal is of course stationary, and in Bombay there are symptoms of decline. But upon the whole, it is encouraging to find this great branch and mainstay of our income in so sound a condition, and likely in future to yield an appreciable increment year by year.

*Excise.*—The increase of £35,000 is mainly due to the recovery of Bengal from the effects of the scarcity, and also to a satisfactory improvement generally throughout the empire. In 1873-74 the income from excise was £2,286,637: in the coming year £2,370,000 are expected. Increased attention is being everywhere paid to this branch of the administration; and, from the various reports recently received, it is clear that the increase arises, at least in a very great measure, from more stringent control, and a better check over smuggling. The Government of India have constantly inculcated the principle that in administering the excise department the interests of morality must dominate over those of revenue, and, where necessary, have supported the Local Governments in carrying that principle into effect.

*Customs.*—The estimates have been framed after reference to the recommendations made by the Tariff Committee, which are now under consideration by the Government of India. The cordial acknowledgments of the Government are due to the Committee for their laborious investigations and for their comprehensive and excellent report. The increase of £28,000 is due mainly to the lateness of the exports of rice from Burma, which will carry forward into the accounts of the coming year a considerable amount of duty that otherwise would have come within 1874-75.

The head of Customs includes £140,850 duty on sugar exported from North-Western India to Rajpootana and Central India. This is one of the least defensible of all our taxes; but there is hope that, with the customs barrier at which it is collected, it will ere long be swept away.

*Salt.*—The improvement here has been dealt with in the remarks for 1874-75.

*Post Office.*—The advance made last year is maintained, and indeed increased by £22,000. It arises from an expected increase of correspondence.

*Telegraph.*—£11,000, due to further recovery from the Ottoman Government, and also to general growth of traffic.

*Interest.*—The advance of £35,000 is caused by additional loans made during the present year to various corporations, landholders, &c.

*Public Works.*—A new item from the Wurora Colliery in the Central Provinces raises this estimate by £14,000.

*Irrigation.*—We have here a gratifying improvement of £14,000. The estimate has been taken with caution, and indeed the Public Works Department expects more. The increase is mainly from the North-Western Provinces,



where (partly from the new Agra Canal) an enhancement of £18,000 is expected; and there is also an advance anticipated in the receipts of the Soane, and of the Bombay Canals.

*State Railways.*—Another notable increase of £109,000 is expected from the carriage of Sambhur salt and the further opening of the State Railways to public traffic.

The grand total of all our revenues, as above explained, is £49,820,000. This is greater than the Budget Estimate of 1874-75 by £836,000, but less than the Regular Estimate (as swelled by the opium surplus) by £250,000. Eliminating opium from the comparison, this year's revenue is more than last year's Regular Estimate by £220,000.

*CHARGES.*—We proceed to consider the expected disbursements for the coming year; and first will be noticed those in which there is any material increase.

*Interest.*—An advance of £142,000. Provision has been made for the additional debt to be incurred in the coming year and for a full year's interest on the money borrowed during the current year.

*Salt.*—£19,000, due chiefly to resumption of operations to repress the illicit manufacture of salt in Behar.

*Post Office.*—An increase of £12,000 may be regarded as a partial set-off to the increase of revenue (£22,000).

*Telegraph.* increase of £49,000: provision is made for the purchase of the telegraphs on certain guaranteed Railways, for the construction of new telegraphs both on the State and guaranteed Railways, and for the purchase of stores.

*Law and Justice* shows an additional burden of £57,000; of this, above £20,000 are for the improved judicial machinery which has just been introduced into the Punjab, and £20,000 are for re-organizing the process-serving establishments in the Bombay Presidency. Provision is also made for the constitution of a new district in Burmah.

*Marine.*—An increase of £40,000, due to the proposed Marine surveys, and to expenditure in England for stores.

*Loss by exchange.*—An increase of £521,000. The rate of exchange is estimated at 1s. 9½d. per rupee, and to remit £14,300,000 at this rate requires the adjusting entry of an additional £1,390,000. Against this we have, on the opposite side of the sheet, a gain of £325,000; leaving a net charge under this head of £1,065,000.

*Army.*—The budget (in which there is an excess over last year of £184,000) provides for the continuance of the Colonel's retirement scheme to the same extent as before. On this important measure, which besides adding to the efficiency of the Army, will be in itself a future financial advantage, the expenditure for the two years 1874-75 and 1875-76 is estimated at not less than £400,000. There have been considerable additions provided for in the expenditure of the coming year, and among them

YEAR.	NET EXPENDITURE FOR THE ARMY.		
	In England.	In India.	TOTAL.
1868-69 ...	3,248,494	11,888,063	15,136,557
1869-70 ...	3,478,897	11,768,327	15,247,134
1870-71 ...	3,507,934	11,605,618	15,112,652
1871-72 ...	3,536,934	11,146,758	14,733,692
1872-73 ...	3,503,020	11,093,781	14,596,801
1873-74 ...	3,328,912	10,890,239	14,219,151
1874-75 Revised Estimate	3,599,700	10,960,300	14,560,000
1875-76 Budget	3,725,600*	11,050,400	14,776,000

\* Including £150,000 for capitalized value of annuities to officers retiring in 1875-76.

£20,000 for increased pay to Majors of Royal Artillery and Engineers; but they have been partially met by savings and retrenchments. The marginal table gives the net expenditure for the army for the last seven years, as compared with our present estimate. From the latter, the payment for the retiring scheme may properly be deducted, as it is in point of fact the cost of a saving which will be spread over many years to come. If this be done, it will be seen that the cost of the army in India has never been lower than in these last two years, and that the total cost is less

than in any recent year up to 1873-74. Within the last two or three years, moreover, a large permanent addition has been made in military expenditure to improve the condition equipment and organization of the army; among such improvements may be named the revised scale of pay for British troops, new establishments for garrison instruction and musketry inspection, additional hutting money for Indian troops, an increase of subalterns in British and Indian regiments. Thus there has been no sacrifice of efficiency to economy: on the contrary, the favorable financial result here shown has gone hand in hand with a liberal expenditure in improvements and reform.

*Public Works Ordinary.*—Increase of £110,000, caused by an extraordinary grant of £100,000 for military works, to enable the construction of barracks to be prosecuted with greater vigor throughout the country: £10,000 have also been given for special repairs in the Kidderpore Dock Yard.

*State Railways.*—Apart from the sum of £185,000 entered in the accounts of 1874-75 as expended upon the Tirhoot State Railway, £75,000 more will be spent in 1875-76 than in the current year, but (as before shown) it will be more than covered by improved receipts.

*Guaranteed interest;* increase £451,000. The additional payment for interest will be only £31,000; but as traffic receipts are first deducted, and as these have been so greatly swollen during the current year by the scarcity, the present entry compares badly with that of 1874-75. The income, however, is growing, as will be shown below.

These are all the instances of material enhancement of expenditure. The departments in which a decrease is expected will now be noticed.

*Forest.*—£28,000, corresponding with a decrease of revenue £27,000.

*Refunds.*—£25,000, the expenditure this year having been unusually high.

*Opium.*—£50,000, already noticed under receipts.

*Mint.*—£38,000; the same cause as in 1874-75.

*Minor Departments.*—£10,000, owing to reduced disbursements on Exhibitions by the Home Government.

*Administration* shows a decrease of £22,000, notwithstanding provision made for the transfer of the Government of India during the summer to Simla, for the new Member of the Governor General's Council, and for some increase to the establishments of the Home Government. The net decrease is owing to the abnormal charge for stores in 1874-75.

*Political Agencies.*—Less by £37,000 owing to exceptional charges in 1874-75 for the Yarkund embassy, and the Zanzibar Mission.

*Allowances under treaty.*—A reduction of £45,000, partly on account of the advance, noticed in the accounts of 1874-75, to the Ex-King of Oudh, and partly owing to the death of certain stipendiaries in Madras.

*Miscellaneous.*—£65,000 saved by the non-recurrence of the special items noticed in the accounts of 1874-75.

*Provincial Services.*—Special grants will be smaller this year than those made last to the extent of £65,000.

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Such, then, are the variations in detail. Putting the whole together, we find the total expenditure estimated for 1875-76 (excluding disbursements on Reproductive works, which the Government holds itself free to construct from borrowed capital) to be £49,314,000. In 1874-75, excluding famine charges, it is only £48,181,000. So that we have here a rise of expenditure of not less than £1,133,000. From the

marginal note it will be seen that three items alone nearly account for this growth of charge. Of the three, the largest, loss by exchange, is dependent on the market rate; the excess of guaranteed interest is caused by the cessation of the famine traffic;—both being beyond the control of Government. The growth of interest arises from increased borrowing for Reproductive works, and also to meet the immediate burden of the recent Famine. So that in the ordinary machinery and administration proper of the empire, there is in the estimates of the coming year but little increase of net charge. Nor

Interest on debt	...	142,000
Guaranteed interest, less	...	451,000
traffic receipts	...	521,000
Loss by exchange	...	
TOTAL	...	1,114,000



must it be lost sight of that this result has been attained notwithstanding considerable additional grants to promote efficiency in the administration;—such as £20,000 to improve the judicial establishments in the Punjab, a similar increase to the Provincial assignment in Assam, an increase of £20,000 for process-serving establishments in Bombay, and £100,000 for the more vigorous prosecution of Military works.

We have seen that the income of the coming year is likely to be £49,820,000, and now we find that the probable expenditure will be £49,314,000. The excess of income over expenditure thus provides for a surplus of £506,000. The Government of India are satisfied that this will be sufficient. By the effective enforcement of economy in all branches of the administration,—an obligation recognized by every Government throughout the country,—it may be hoped that, no unforeseen adversity occurring, the surplus will, as in previous years, prove somewhat better than has been estimated; and in particular, from what has before been said, some improvement may not unreasonably be looked for from opium.

Before passing on to the Ways and Means for the year, a few remarks seem called for on the state of Trade and also on the progress of Reproductive works, the interest on the capital of which forms so heavy a weight upon the finances of India.

THE LEADING FEATURES OF TRADE in 1873-74, as compared with the year preceding, may be described as follows: The aggregate value (excluding Government stores and treasure) was £94,277,080, being an increase over 1872-73 of Two and three-quarter millions. The increase was almost entirely in imports, which exceeded those of 1872-73 by £2,407,577. The small increase in exports (£338,400) was due to an increase of £605,117 in treasure; so that there was really a decrease in the value of exported merchandise, amounting to £266,717.

Of the increase in imports, £1,235,949 are due to treasure, and £1,171,628 to merchandise. Cotton piece goods rose in value by £559,125; there was a slight fall in twist and yarn of £8,748; the net result being an increase of £550,377, notwithstanding the competition of cotton-mills in India. In point of fact, the value of cotton goods imported in 1873-74 was the highest on record, excepting 1870-71,\* a year of excessive importations, and 1868-69,† when the tariff values were higher than now by about 15 per cent. The value of metals, notwithstanding a slight increase in iron and a considerable increase in tin, fell by £57,618. But in the present year the metal trade is materially improving. The expansion of industrial enterprise in India is satisfactorily attested by an increase of machinery imported, the value in 1873-74 being £1,002,347 as against £517,316 in 1872-73.

The increase in the value of exports, as shown above, was £338,400. This is the result of several fluctuations, of which the most marked are the following;—Raw cotton fell by £805,923; raw jute by £706,533; and rice by £235,969. The decrease in the value of cotton is wholly due to lower prices,

	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£
‡ 1872-73	494,214,447	14,022,108
1873-74	504,035,620	13,216,185
	Cwts.	£
§ 1872-73	7,080,912	4,142,548
1873-74	6,127,279	3,436,015
	Cwts.	£
1872-73	22,973,797	5,701,439
1873-74	19,805,184	5,456,470

the quantity exported having risen by nearly ten million lbs.;‡ that in jute was owing to the fall in prices caused by unusually large exportations in the two preceding years.§ The diminution in rice was owing to the demand caused by the scarcity in Behar.|| The proportionate decrease in value was less than that in quantity, prices having been higher in 1873-74 by 11·3 per cent.; so that the fall in quantity was 13·8 per cent., and in value 4·1 per cent. The chief items of increase were tea, indigo, seeds, wheat, and treasure. Of tea 19,324,235 lbs. were exported in 1873-74 as compared with 17,789,911 in the previous year, the value being £1,742,926 as against £1,577,691. It is gratifying to find

Surplus for  
1875-76.

TRADE STATISTICS  
OF 1873-74, COMPARED  
WITH 1872-73.

INCREASE OF  
IMPORTS.

EXPORTS.

ITEMS OF DECREASE.

ITEMS OF INCREASE.

this valuable staple, year by year, advancing steadily. The value of tea exported in 1863-64 was only £220,394. Indigo rose from 115,312 cwts. to 115,980, and the value from £3,426,824 to £3,555,300. The important trade in seeds has almost entirely recovered from the depression of 1872-73; the average value of the five years preceding that year was £2,543,000: in 1872-73 it fell to £1,508,241; in 1873-74 it rose to £2,361,423. Wheat shows a remarkable increase, the export in 1873-74 being 1,755,954 cwts., valued at £827,606, as against 394,010 cwts. in 1872-73, valued at £167,690: the improvement is due no doubt to the remission of the export duty in the beginning of 1873. Of coffee the quantity exported, 40,715,638 lbs., was less than the 41,462,705 lbs. of the previous year; but the value was higher, being £1,487,467 against £1,128,549: the fall in amount and rise in price were no doubt both due to deficiency in the crop. The saltpetre trade was not so brisk as in the year before, when it was unusually prosperous; but it exceeded the average of the five years preceding 1872-73. The export of teak continued to improve.

Upon the whole, the prospects of the commerce of India as illustrated by these figures are very encouraging.

GUARANTEED RAIL-  
WAYS.

GUARANTEED RAILWAYS.—The following table gives the progress of the traffic receipts:—

	Miles open.	Gross earnings.	Expenses.	Net receipts.
	No.	£	£	£
1870-71	4,963	6,620,758	4,063,977	2,556,781
1871-72	5,077	6,699,981	3,831,933	2,868,948
1872-73	5,345	6,889,281	4,341,381	2,547,900
1873-74	5,593	7,641,042	4,410,488	3,230,554
1874-75 (Regular)	5,613	8,245,400	4,683,400	3,562,000
1875-76 (Budget)	5,866	7,449,900	4,307,900	3,142,000

The entire length of all guaranteed Railways at present sanctioned is 6,207 miles. One hundred miles were opened in 1874, of which 85 belong to the Oudh and Rohilkhund Railway. As 5,591 miles in all are now open, it will be seen that the system is rapidly approaching completion. The capital already expended is £93,615,000.

The train mileage run during 1874 was 17,617,794 miles against 14,727,933 in 1873. The passengers increased from 21,406,636 to 22,678,772; but the coaching receipts diminished from £2,171,484 to £2,134,847. The increase in numbers and decrease in receipts arise from the adoption of low fares on the Madras and some other Railways, the effect of which is being watched; and in Bengal there was a falling off in passenger traffic owing to the scarcity.

The goods traffic, as repeatedly noticed, was greatly swelled during the last two years, and notably in 1874-75, by the carriage of grain to the districts where scarcity prevailed. The weight carried increased from 4,147,316 tons in 1873 (a year in which carriage of grain was already stimulated by the famine) to 4,926,779; and the receipts from £4,219,174 to £5,129,500.

The gross earnings of the closing year are expected to be £8,245,400, and the expenses £4,291,500; the net traffic receipts will thus be £3,953,900, of which £391,900, being half the surplus in excess of guaranteed interest, will be paid to the Companies. The remaining £3,562,000 will accrue to the Indian revenues. The interest payable under guarantee is £4,694,000. The net amount chargeable against the revenues will be £1,132,000.

Leaving out the last two years, it will be seen that the net traffic receipts in 1872-73 were £2,547,900; but that is held to have been an exceptionally bad year. The receipts of the previous year, 1871-72, were £2,868,948: since that time about 800 additional miles have been opened, and the expected net income for 1875-76 is £3,142,000, or £273,052 more than in 1871-72. The present estimates, which have been carefully prepared in the Railway Department, give hope of a gradual advance of receipts, and of a corresponding diminution in the interest charge.



STATE RAILWAYS.—A few words may be added on the progress of the State Railways. At the end of 1873 the mileage open was 183 miles; at the end of 1874, 612.

The total cost to end of 1873-74 was ...	£5,619,950
Expenditure in 1874-75 (Regular Estimate) ...	2,787,550
Grant for 1875-76 (Budget Estimate) ...	3,000,000

Estimated total expenditure to end of 1875-76 ... £11,407,500

The mean mileage worked during the year was 414 miles, and the train mileage 372,894, carrying 248,781 tons and 1,429,942 passengers. The receipts were £55,034 from goods and £47,133 from coaching; and averaged together £7 per mile per week. The State lines are worked at lower fares for passengers than on the guaranteed lines.

The net receipts are expected to increase (as has been stated before) from £27,000 to £50,000, and we may look now for a rapid rise of income as a set-off to the charge for interest, as well as for an invaluable accession to the trade in salt.

IRRIGATION CANALS.—The gross direct irrigation revenue, that is, the receipts for water-rate and other items assessed directly by the Irrigation Department, will probably amount in 1875-76 to £525,000. This is almost entirely received in the Punjab, North-Western Provinces, and Lower Bengal. The returns from irrigation elsewhere are still, as a rule, included in the Land Revenue. The indirect revenue in the Provinces just named, that is, the increased assessment of Land Revenue due to canal irrigation, is estimated at £161,000, making a total income of £686,000.

	£	
Ganges Canal	2,644,700	(excluding the Madras and Bombay Presidencies, the accounts of which are not yet adjusted)
Eastern Jumna Canal	207,800	amounted to £9,930,000. Of this, £6,711,000 was
Baree Doab	1,375,000	spent on the five works named in the margin,
Western Jumna	334,000	which are the largest of those now earning revenue.
Orissa	2,149,500	

The aggregate capital outlay on irrigation works to the end of 1873-74 (excluding the Madras and Bombay Presidencies, the accounts of which are not yet adjusted) amounted to £9,930,000. Of this, £6,711,000 was spent on the five works named in the margin, which are the largest of those now earning revenue. The gross direct income from these canals is expected to be £459,479, and the expenses £224,776, leaving a direct net revenue of £234,703, or a return of 3½ per cent. If the indirect revenue be included, the net return will be £347,119, or about 5 per cent. The area irrigated in the three Provinces was nearly 2,300,000 acres.

During the year certain projects were started in Behar to give relief to the famished population; but work on them is at present stayed, pending a more thorough survey of the country and investigation of the designs. About £17,506 were thus spent.

In the Punjab the chief expenditure has been on the Baree Doab, Sirhind, and Western Jumna Canals. The first of these is being improved and completed at an estimated cost of £128,900. The works on the Sirhind Canal have been vigorously prosecuted during the year, at an outlay of about £220,000. The total cost will be about Three millions. The rectification of the Western Jumna Canal is intended mainly to remove sanitary evils that have been found injurious to the country: the cost is estimated at £722,000.

In the North-Western Provinces certain rectifications of the Eastern Jumna Canal have been made at an expenditure of about £10,800. Material improvements in the Ganges Canal are being pressed forward, but necessarily with some difficulty, as the channels are full: the expenditure was about £54,000. The Lower Ganges Canal, with its new dam at Nurora below the Rajghat bridge, is being constructed with great vigor, about £300,000 having been expended on it during the year. Irrigation has commenced from the Agra canal, which was opened last year; its length is 130 miles, and its cost will be £900,000.

In Bengal £340,000 were spent on the Soane canal. This work afforded labor to the poor during the late scarcity; a large area was brought under irrigation without charge, and the food supply of the country thus

materially increased. The expenditure on new works for the Orissa canal was about £203,000; the irrigation receipts on this canal advance but slowly: the receipts from the navigation of the Midnapore and Tidal Canal, however, exhibit the gratifying increase of £20,948 against £10,386 in the previous year.

In Madras no new works have been commenced, but improvements are projected in the Godavery and Kistna works. The canals in this Presidency suffered severely from floods, and the repairs will be costly.

In Bombay the Moota Moola design for the water-supply of Poona as well as for irrigation, was completed as far as Poona, the outlay so far being £361,000; and there will be a small return in the present year. The Desert canal in Scinde was also in progress at an outlay of £15,000.

The returns of canal revenue make no distinction between income derived from former works constructed out of revenue, and from those derived from borrowed money. In respect of the latter there is a lien upon the returns for the payment of the interest. It is now under consideration to what extent this can be shown in a distinct account, so as to keep under a continual watch the degree in which such works support themselves without aid from the general revenues of the empire.

FORECAST OF EFFECT  
OF BORROWING FOR  
RAILWAYS AND  
CANALS ON FINANCES  
OF INDIA.

For the last three years a forecast has been annually prepared in the Public Works Department, looking forward five years, and balancing against the increase of income anticipated from railways and canals, the increased charge on the empire for the interest of the capital borrowed for their construction. The forecast from 1875-76 to 1879-80 will shortly be published, when it will be shewn that, so far as can be foreseen, the continued prosecution of these works on the present scale will not entail any increase of burden on the exchequer of India.

Ways & Means  
for 1875-76.

It remains now only to consider the Ways and Means to provide for the expenditure which will devolve upon the Government of India and the Home Government during the year on which we are about to enter.

The cash balances in the Indian and Home Treasuries on 31st March 1874 (varying but slightly from the Revised Estimate) were a little above Sixteen millions, as follows:—

	£
In India	14,033,442
In Home Treasury	2,015,056
TOTAL	<u>£16,048,498</u>

It was estimated last year that on the 31st day of this month, the balances would have risen slightly, so as to stand at a little above Sixteen and a half millions.\* The treasury

	£
* In India	15,272,593
Home Treasury	1,268,745
	<u>16,541,338</u>
	£
+ In India	15,700,042
Home Treasury	2,686,150(a)
	<u>18,386,198</u>

accounts are influenced by so many and various causes that it is difficult to foretell precisely at what figure they will stand twenty days hence; but, as closely as we can calculate, they will be better than was estimated last year by no less than £1,844,860.† The improvement over the estimate is mainly due to the surplus in the ordinary account of 1874-75 being (as before explained) larger than was expected; and to the disbursements on the Famine and Extraordinary works being short of what was provided. From these causes the deficit on the whole account of the current year, estimated at £5,951,000, will be found from the present budget sheet to have fallen to £4,588,000, that is, by £1,363,000.

(a) The excess in the balances in Home Treasury as compared with estimate arises from excess remittances during the favorable season of commercial activity in India.



The Treasury balances (including those in England) rose during the year by £2,337,700. The main cause is that the sums borrowed more than covered our eventual wants. In all, including Railway capital, £7,488,100 were borrowed. The deficit of revenue, in 1874-75, as we have seen, is £4,588,000; add to this £853,200 for loans to Port Trust, Municipalities, &c., and we have a total of £5,441,200: thus leaving an excess of £2,046,900, which explains the greater part of the excess in the cash balances.

Of the amount borrowed during 1874-75, the Secretary of State raised £5,000,000 at four per cent. interest, obtaining a premium of £69,832, at an average of £1-7-11 per cent.

Two and a half crores of rupees were raised in India, also at four per cent. interest, a premium being obtained of Rs. 6,90,695, at an average of Rs. 2-12-2 per cent. For this loan 1,380 tenders were received, of which 908 were from Natives of India. The whole amount tendered was Rs. 16,15,95,900. The Government minimum price was Rs. 101, and 851 tenders were received for Rs. 14,13,81,500 at this minimum rate or at rates exceeding it. Of these tenders, 525 were from Natives of India.

In the coming year we have seen that the sum to be expended on Reproductive works is £4,300,000, and a further sum of £633,700 will be required for repayment of Railway capital: total £4,933,700. Against this is to be set the surplus of £506,000, reducing the amount to £4,427,700. The receipts upon the remainder of the cash account of the coming year will exceed the disbursements by £316,000. If this be deducted from the £4,427,700 required, a balance of £4,111,700 remains to be provided.

Supposing no money to be borrowed, this drain upon the Treasury would reduce the balances at Home and in India to about Fourteen and a quarter millions.\* But this sum is too small for the requirements of the empire; and it will be necessary to arrange so that the balances shall not fall below Seventeen millions.† To provide for this it has been resolved to borrow the sum of £2,860,000. Of this amount the Maharajahs Scindia and Holkar are under engagements to contribute for Railways £360,000. The remaining sum, £2,500,000, will be raised by loan. In accordance with the intimation given by Her Majesty's Government, there will be no borrowing in England during the present year: the loan, therefore, to the amount above specified, will be raised in India. The arrangements for this purpose will be notified at some suitable time hereafter. By these arrangements the cash balance will, it is estimated, stand at £17,096,598 on the 31st March 1876.

In reviewing our loan transactions since 1869-70, and including guaranteed Railway capital and the proposed new loan, the entire sum borrowed during these seven years is £22,576,917. During the same period there has been spent on Reproductive works (State Railways and Canals) £19,468,774, leaving a balance of £3,108,143. The cash balance (according to present estimate) will be larger at the close of that period than it was at the beginning by £3,894,813. If, then, we deduct this sum, £3,894,813, from the sums borrowed, we find that the amount expended on Reproductive works will exceed the remainder by more than three quarters of a million; which three quarters of a million has consequently come out of Ordinary revenue. Over and above this, the whole cost of the famine, say Six millions, has been defrayed from net surplus on the ordinary account. These results will, it is believed, be considered satisfactory.

Balance on 31st March 1874	£ 16,048,498
Estimated ditto on 1st March 1875	18,386,198
Difference	2,337,700

*India	£ 12,107,642
Home	2,128,956
	14,236,598
†India	£ 14,967,642
Home	2,128,956
	17,096,598

Balance, 31st March 1869	£ 13,201,785
Ditto 1876	17,096,598
Increase	£3,894,813
Borrowed	22,576,917
Added to cash balances	3,894,813
Remains to be accounted for	£18,682,104
Spent on Reproductive works	19,468,774
Net borrowed	18,682,104
	£786,670

AFRER CURRENCY  
AND TREASURY  
IMPROVEMENTS.

In the early part of 1874, the paper currency stood at a very low amount, not much in excess of Nine millions. It rose gradually in the latter part of the year, and for four or five months has varied little from Eleven millions. The fall ordinarily caused at the present season by the demand for silver in the interior has this year been neutralized by the issues made against bullion.

Enquiries are being prosecuted with the view, if possible, to introduce a system of money orders between India and Germany: and also to extend to Indian laborers in Ceylon the advantage of money orders on Indian District Treasuries.

The number of depositors in Savings Banks has increased in the course of the expiring year by about 4,000. It now stands at about 68,000; and the aggregate of deposits at about £1,866,000.

The highest quoted price of four per cent. rupee paper in Calcutta during 1874-75 was Rs. 104-12 on the 9th and 15th July, the lowest Rs. 101-10 on the 24th April. The highest quoted price of enfaced four per cent. rupee paper in London was Rs. 98 on the 30th May and 4th June; the lowest Rs. 94, at which it now stands. The highest quoted price of four per cent. sterling paper in London was 104 $\frac{7}{8}$ ths on the 4th February, the lowest 100 $\frac{1}{2}$  on the 2nd April.

The rupee paper enfaced for payment of interest in England by drafts on India stood on the 31st March 1874 at £13,272,205. The highest amount during the year was £14,214,617 on the 14th November 1874. The amount by the latest return (15th February 1875) was £13,905,131.

It has not been found possible this year to complete the estimates and accounts of Provincial, Local, and Municipal income and expenditure in time for the Imperial Budget. They will be published, hereafter, so soon as they can be compiled.

To sum up briefly the leading points of this Financial Statement:—

For 1873-74 the Revised Estimate as prepared last year shewed an expected surplus of £1,818,700; the financial accounts shew an actual surplus of £2,071,936.

The surplus of 1874-75, estimated in the budget at £1,192,000, is expected according to the Revised Estimate to be £1,889,000. These figures are irrespective of famine relief and of expenditure from loans on Reproductive works.

The net cost of the Famine (allowing for recoveries and excess Railway income) will be about £5,800,000.

The estimated income of 1875-76 is £49,820,000; and expenditure £49,314,000; giving a surplus of £502,000.

On Reproductive works, £4,300,000 will be spent; including these, the deficit is £3,794,000.

The cash balances on 31st March 1875 are estimated to be £18,386,198.

To provide for the disbursements on Reproductive works, and maintain the cash balances at a sufficient amount, it will be necessary to raise a loan of £2,500,000.

With this assistance it is estimated that the cash balance will, on 31st March 1876, stand at £17,096,598, or a little above Seventeen millions.



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STATEMENTS.

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# REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE ESTIMATED

REVENUE.	ACCOUNTS, 1873-74.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	REGULAR ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	INCREASE.	DECREASE.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1875-76.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1875-76, COM- PARED WITH GULAR ESTIMATES 1874-75.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
CIVIL.							
I.—LAND REVENUE ...	21,037,912	21,404,000	21,083,000	...	321,000	21,379,000	+ 290,000
II.—TRIBUTES AND CONTRI- BUTIONS FROM N. STATES ...	768,544	726,000	739,000	13,000	...	700,000	- 26,000
III.—FOREST ...	623,131	606,000	599,000	...	7,000	572,000	- 27,000
IV.—EXCISE ON SPIRITS AND DRUGS ...	2,286,637	2,286,000	2,335,000	49,000	...	2,370,000	+ 34,000
V.—ASSESSED TAXES ...	20,136	Nil	3,000	3,000	...	Nil.	- 3,000
VI.—CUSTOMS ...	2,628,495	2,738,000	2,642,000	...	96,000	2,670,000	+ 28,000
VII.—SALT ...	6,150,662	6,079,000	6,188,000	109,000	...	6,208,000	+ 20,000
VIII.—OPIMUM ...	8,324,879	7,615,000	8,520,000	905,000	...	8,050,000	- 470,000
IX.—STAMPS ...	2,699,936	2,708,000	2,779,000	71,000	...	2,784,000	+ 5,000
X.—MINT ...	66,544	124,000	133,000	9,000	...	72,000	- 11,000
XI.—POST OFFICE ...	688,198	695,000	713,000	18,000	...	735,000	+ 22,000
XII.—TELEGRAPH ...	250,638	252,000	279,000	27,000	...	290,000	+ 11,000
XIII.—LAW AND JUSTICE ...	359,146	333,000	321,000	...	12,000	319,000	- 14,000
XIV.—MARINE ...	236,323	201,000	282,000	81,000	...	197,000	- 84,000
XV.—INTEREST ...	464,010	462,000	537,000	75,000	...	572,000	+ 35,000
XVI.—RECEIPTS IN AID OF SUPER- ANNUATION, RETIRED AND COMPASSIONATE ALLOW- ANCES ...	699,768	679,000	694,000	15,000	...	634,000	- 65,000
XVII.—GAIN BY EXCHANGE ON TRANSACTIONS WITH LONDON ...	395,168	322,000	370,000	48,000	...	325,000	- 47,000
XVIII.—MISCELLANEOUS ...	296,961	195,000	225,000	30,000	...	180,000	- 45,000
TOTAL ...	47,997,988	47,425,000	48,442,000	1,017,000	...	48,057,000	- 385,000
ARMY ...	1,009,124	890,000	939,000	49,000	...	907,000	- 32,000
PUBLIC WORKS, ORDINARY ...	89,511	83,000	80,000	...	3,000	94,000	+ 14,000
IRRIGATION ...	475,174	491,000	488,000	...	3,000	532,000	+ 44,000
STATE RAILWAYS ...	39,914	95,000	121,000	26,000	...	230,000	+ 165,000
GRAND TOTAL ...	49,611,711	48,984,000	50,070,000	1,086,000	...	49,820,000	- 250,000
DEFICIT, EXCLUDING P. W. EXTRA- ORDINARY, BUT INCLUDING FAMINE CHARGES ...	1,792,737	1,388,000	553,000	...	835,000	Nil.	- 553,000
DEFICIT, INCLUDING P. W. EXTRA- ORDINARY, BUT EXCLUDING FAMINE CHARGES ...	1,481,371	3,371,000	2,146,000	...	1,225,000	3,794,000	+ 1,648,000
DEFICIT, INCLUDING P. W. EXTRA- ORDINARY AND FAMINE CHARGES ...	5,346,044	5,961,000	4,588,000	...	1,363,000	3,794,000	- 794,000

FORT WILLIAM;  
FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

EDWARD GAY.



# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA IN INDIA AND IN ENGLAND.

1875-76.

EXPENDITURE.	ACCOUNTS, 1873-74.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	REGULAR ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	INCREASE.	DECREASE.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1875-76.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1875-76. COM- PARED WITH RE- GULAR ESTIMATES, 1874-75.
CIVIL.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
INTEREST ON FUNDED AND UNFUNDED DEBT ...	5,248,820	5,127,000	5,066,000	...	61,000	5,208,000	+ 142,000
INTEREST ON SERVICE FUNDS AND OTHER ACCOUNTS ...	541,001	359,000	382,000	23,000	...	376,000	— 6,000
REFUNDS AND DRAWBACKS ...	292,845	262,000	325,000	63,000	...	300,000	— 25,000
LAND REVENUE ...	2,486,275	2,513,000	2,476,000	...	37,000	2,480,000	+ 4,000
FOREST ...	390,499	443,000	433,000	...	10,000	405,000	— 28,000
EXCISE ON SPIRITS AND DRUGS	93,569	87,000	83,000	...	4,000	86,000	+ 3,000
ASSESSED TAXES ...	2,165	Nil.	Nil.	...	...	Nil	...
CUSTOMS ...	183,863	186,000	178,000	...	8,000	179,000	+ 1,000
SALT ...	478,245	490,000	479,000	...	11,000	498,000	+ 19,000
OPIMUM ...	2,001,280	2,115,000	2,350,000	235,000	...	2,300,000	— 50,000
STAMPS ...	88,840	117,000	126,000	9,000	...	123,000	— 3,000
MINT ...	76,229	168,000	128,000	...	40,000	90,000	— 38,000
POST OFFICE ...	808,684	813,000	804,000	...	9,000	816,000	+ 12,000
TELEGRAPH ...	411,801	450,000	435,000	...	15,000	484,000	+ 49,000
ADMINISTRATION ...	1,577,286	1,559,000	1,637,000	78,000	...	1,615,000	— 22,000
MINOR DEPARTMENTS ...	319,914	323,000	309,000	...	14,000	299,000	— 10,000
LAW AND JUSTICE ...	2,266,179	2,279,000	2,283,000	4,000	...	2,340,000	+ 57,000
MARINE ...	474,755	528,000	502,000	...	26,000	542,000	+ 40,000
ECCLESIASTICAL ...	159,527	159,000	160,000	1,000	...	161,000	+ 1,000
MEDICAL ...	180,596	187,000	194,000	7,000	...	187,000	— 7,000
POLITICAL AGENCIES ...	366,209	445,000	373,000	...	72,000	336,000	— 37,000
ALLOWANCES AND ASSIGN- MENTS UNDER TREATIES AND ENGAGEMENTS ...	1,856,700	1,722,000	1,740,000	18,000	...	1,695,000	— 45,000
CIVIL FURLOUGH AND AB- SENTEE ALLOWANCES ...	260,556	277,000	221,000	...	56,000	221,000	.....
SUPERANNUATION, RETIRED AND COMPASSIONATE AL- LOWANCES ...	1,576,682	1,818,000	1,839,000	21,000	...	1,863,000	+ 24,000
LOSSES BY EXCHANGE ON TRANS- ACTIONS WITH LONDON ...	986,530	746,000	869,000	123,000	...	1,390,000	+ 521,000
MISCELLANEOUS ...	94,142	70,000	135,000	65,000	...	70,000	— 65,000
ALLOTMENTS FOR PROVINCIAL SERVICES ...	5,069,972	5,030,000	5,124,000	94,000	...	5,059,000	— 65,000
FAMINE RELIEF ...	3,864,673	2,580,000	2,442,000	...	138,000	...	— 2,442,000
TOTAL CIVIL ...	32,157,837	30,853,000	31,093,000	240,000	...	29,123,000	— 1,970,000
ARMY ...	15,228,274	15,387,000	15,499,000	112,000	...	15,683,000	+ 184,000
PUBLIC WORKS, ORDINARY ...	2,355,723	2,505,000	2,544,000	39,000	...	2,654,000	+ 110,000
STATE RAILWAYS ...	72,824	104,000	281,000	177,000	...	180,000	— 101,000
LAND AND SUPERVISION (GUARAN- TEED RAILWAYS) ...	152,438	129,000	74,000	...	55,000	91,000	+ 17,000
GUARANTEED INTEREST, LESS NET TRAFFIC RECEIPTS ...	1,437,352	1,394,000	1,132,000	...	262,000	1,583,000	+ 451,000
TOTAL ORDINARY ...	51,404,448	50,372,000	50,623,000	251,000	...	49,314,000	— 1,309,000
PUBLIC WORKS, EXTRAORDINARY ...	3,553,307	4,563,000	4,035,000	...	528,000	4,300,000	+ 265,000
GRAND TOTAL ...	54,957,755	54,935,000	54,658,000	...	277,000	53,614,000	— 1,044,000
PLUS, EXCLUDING P. W. EX- TRAORDINARY & FAMINE CHARGES	2,071,936	1,192,000	1,889,000	697,000	...	506,000	— 1,383,000
GROSS GUARANTEED INTEREST ...	4,667,906	4,696,000	4,694,000	...	2,000	4,725,000	+ 31,000
NET TRAFFIC RECEIPTS ...	4,230,554	3,302,000	3,562,000	260,000	...	3,142,000	— 420,000
GUARANTEED INTEREST LESS NET TRAFFIC RECEIPTS ...	1,437,352	1,394,000	1,132,000	...	262,000	1,583,000	+ 451,000

E. F. HARRISON,

R. B. CHAPMAN,

# REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE Estimate

REVENUE	ACCOUNTS, 1873-74.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	REGULAR ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	INCREASE.	DECREASE.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1875-76.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1875-76. PAID BY REGULAR ESTIMATES 1874-75.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
I.—LAND REVENUE ...	21,037,912	21,404,000	21,083,000	...	321,000	21,379,000	—224,000
II.—TRIBUTES AND CONTRI- BUTIONS FROM NATIVE STATES ...	768,544	726,000	739,000	13,000	...	700,000	—39,000
III.—FOREST ...	623,131	606,000	599,000	...	7,000	572,000	—27,000
IV.—EXCISE ON SPIRITS AND DRUGS ...	2,286,637	2,286,000	2,335,000	49,000	...	2,370,000	+33,000
V.—ASSESSED TAXES ...	20,136	...	3,000	3,000	...	...	—3,000
VI.—CUSTOMS ...	2,628,495	2,738,000	2,642,000	...	96,000	2,670,000	+28,000
VII.—SALT ...	6,150,662	6,079,000	6,188,000	109,000	...	6,208,000	+20,000
VIII.—OPIMUM ...	8,324,879	7,615,000	8,520,000	905,000	...	8,050,000	—470,000
IX.—STAMPS ...	...	...	2,779,000	71,000	...	2,784,000	+5,000
X.—MINE ...	...	124,000	133,000	9,000	...	72,000	—61,000
XI.—POST OFFICE ...	...	695,000	713,000	18,000	...	735,000	+22,000
XII.—TELEGRAPH ...	...	241,200	265,500	24,300	...	268,400	+2,000
XIII.—LAW AND JUSTICE ...	...	333,000	321,000	...	12,000	319,000	—2,000
XIV.—MARINE ...	235,099	201,000	200,700	...	300	197,000	—3,000
XV.—INTEREST ...	395,028	447,000	458,000	11,000	...	552,000	+94,000
XVI.—RECEIPTS IN AID OF SUPER- ANNUATION, RETIRED AND COMPASSIONATE ALLOW- ANCES ...	601,719	584,400	599,000	14,600	...	542,400	—56,000
XVII.—GAIN BY EXCHANGE ON TRANSACTIONS WITH LONDON ...	395,168	322,000	370,000	48,000	...	325,000	—45,000
XVIII.—MISCELLANEOUS ...	261,026	187,000	196,000	9,000	...	172,000	—24,000
	47,788,670	47,296,600	48,144,200	847,600	...	47,915,800	—228,400
ARMY ...	982,703	870,000	910,000	40,000	...	880,000	—30,000
PUBLIC WORKS, ORDINARY ...	73,681	64,300	62,500	...	1,800	75,200	+12,000
IRRIGATION ...	475,174	491,000	488,000	...	3,000	532,000	+44,000
STATE RAILWAYS ...	39,914	95,000	121,000	26,000	...	230,000	+109,000
TOTAL ORDINARY ...	49,360,142	48,816,900	49,725,700	908,800	...	49,633,000	—92,700

FORT WILLIAM;  
FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT,  
The 13th March 1875.

EDWARD GAY,  
Deputy Comptroller General.



# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA IN INDIA.

EXPENDITURE.	ACCOUNTS, 1873-74.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	REGULAR ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	INCREASE.	DECREASE.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1875-76.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1875-76, COM- PARED WITH REGULAR ESTIMATES, 1874-75.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
INTEREST ON FUNDED AND UNFUNDED DEBT ...	2,814,523	2,917,000	2,875,500	...	41,500	3,045,200	+ 169,700
INTEREST ON SERVICE FUNDS AND OTHER ACCOUNTS ...	541,001	359,000	382,000	23,000	...	376,000	— 6,000
REFUNDS AND DRAWBACKS ...	277,183	262,000	311,000	49,000	...	300,000	— 11,000
LAND REVENUE ...	2,482,803	2,509,400	2,470,100	...	39,300	2,477,700	+ 7,600
FOREST ...	384,540	440,000	427,200	...	12,800	402,800	— 24,400
EXCISE ON SPIRITS AND DRUGS	93,569	87,000	83,000	...	4,000	86,000	+ 3000
ASSESSED TAXES ...	2,165	...	...	...	...	...	...
CUSTOMS ...	183,863	186,000	178,000	...	8,000	179,000	+ 1000
SALT ...	477,967	490,000	478,900	...	11,100	498,000	+ 19,100
OPIMUM ...	2,001,277	2,115,000	2,349,700	234,700	...	2,300,000	— 49,700
STAMPS ...	65,927	70,500	66,400	...	4,100	74,000	+ 7,600
MINT ...	70,620	82,000	112,600	30,600	...	73,600	— 39,000
POST OFFICE ...	736,910	733,600	745,200	11,600	...	752,500	+ 7,300
TELEGRAPH ...	330,417	382,100	356,200	...	25,900	395,000	+ 38,800
ADMINISTRATION ...	1,243,233	1,191,500	1,211,400	19,900	...	1,247,400	+ 36,000
MINOR DEPARTMENTS ...	290,226	283,600	274,600	...	9,000	278,000	+ 3,400
LAW AND JUSTICE ...	2,266,136	2,277,000	2,281,300	4,300	...	2,337,500	+ 56,200
MARINE ...	367,900	383,200	374,800	...	8,400	402,600	+ 27,800
ECCLESIASTICAL ...	157,577	158,100	158,600	500	...	160,100	+ 1,500
MEDICAL ...	180,596	180,200	187,200	7,000	...	180,200	— 7,000
POLITICAL AGENCIES ...	331,283	402,000	331,100	...	70,900	303,000	— 28,100
ALLOWANCES AND ASSIGN- MENTS UNDER TREATIES AND ENGAGEMENTS ...	1,837,364	1,702,600	1,720,600	18,000	...	1,675,600	— 45,000
SUPERANNUATION, RETIRED, AND COMPASSIONATE AL- LOWANCES ...	662,598	700,000	691,000	...	9,000	695,500	+ 4,500
LOSS BY EXCHANGE ON TRANS- ACTIONS WITH LONDON ...	986,530	746,000	869,000	123,000	...	1,390,000	+ 521,000
MISCELLANEOUS ...	59,803	44,800	98,800	54,000	...	43,800	— 55,000
ALLOTMENTS FOR PROVIN- CIAL SERVICES ...	5,069,972	5,030,000	5,123,000	93,000	...	5,058,400	— 64,600
FAMINE RELIEF ...	3,851,428	2,522,000	2,370,900	...	151,100	Nil	— 2,370,900
TOTAL ...	27,767,406	26,254,600	26,528,100	273,500	...	24,731,900	— 1,796,200
...	11,872,941	11,869,700	11,870,300	600	...	11,930,400	+ 60,100
PUBLIC WORKS, ORDINARY ...	2,229,386	2,421,200	2,429,700	8,500	...	2,570,200	+ 140,500
RAILWAYS ...	72,824	104,000	281,000	177,000	...	180,000	— 101,000
ROAD AND SUPERVISION (GUARAN- TEED RAILWAYS) ...	152,438	129,000	74,000	...	55,000	91,000	+ 17,000
...	42,094,995	40,778,500	41,183,100	404,600	...	39,503,500	— 1,679,600
PUBLIC WORKS, EXTRAORDINARY	2,542,642	3,420,000	2,897,400	...	522,600	3,600,200	+ 702,800
GRAND TOTAL ...	44,687,637	44,198,500	44,080,500	...	118,000	43,103,700	— 976,800

E. F. HARRISON,  
Comptroller General.

R. B. CHAPMAN,  
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

# REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE AT THE

Estimate

REVENUE.	ACCOUNTS, 1873-74.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	REGULAR ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	INCREASE.	DECREASE.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1875-76.	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BUDGET ESTIMATES 1875-76 AND 1874-75.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
X.—MINT ...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...
XII.—TELEGRAPH ...	4,213	10,800	13,500	2,700	...	21,600	...
XIV.—MARINE ...	1,224	...	81,300	81,300	...	...	...
XV.—INTEREST ...	69,882	15,000	79,000	64,000	...	20,000	...
XVI.—RECEIPTS IN AID OF SUP- PENSATION, RE- TIRED AND COMPAS- SIONATE ALLOWANCES	98,049	94,600	95,000	400	...	91,600	...
XVIII.—MISCELLANEOUS ...	35,935	8,000	29,000	21,000	...	8,000	...
TOTAL ...	209,318	128,400	297,800	169,400	...	141,200	...
ARMY ...	26,421	20,000	29,000	9,000	...	27,000	...
PUBLIC WORKS, ORDINARY ...	15,830	18,700	17,500	...	1,200	18,800	...
GRAND TOTAL ...	251,569	167,100	344,300	177,200	...	187,000	...

FORT WILLIAM;  
FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT,  
The 13th March 1875.

EDWARD GAY,  
Deputy Comptroller General.



# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

1876.

EXPENDITURE.	ACCOUNTS, 1873-74.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	REGULAR ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	INCREASE.	DECREASE.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1875-76.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1875-76, COM- PARED WITH RE- GULAR ESTIMATES 1874-75.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
INTEREST ON FUNDED AND UNFUNDED DEBT ...	2,434,297	2,210,000	2,190,500	...	19,500	2,162,800	-27,700
REFUNDS AND DRAWBACKS...	15,662	...	14,000	14,000	...	...	-14,000
LAND REVENUE ...	3,472	3,600	5,900	2,300	...	2,300	-3,600
FOREST ...	5,959	3,000	5,800	2,800	...	2,200	-3,600
SALT ...	278	...	100	100	...	...	-100
OPIUM ...	3	...	300	300	...	...	-300
STAMPS ...	22,913	46,500	59,600	13,100	...	49,000	-10,600
MINT ...	5,609	86,000	15,400	...	70,600	16,400	+1,000
POST OFFICE ...	71,774	79,400	58,800	...	20,600	63,500	+4,700
TELEGRAPH ...	81,384	67,900	78,800	10,900	...	89,000	+10,200
ADMINISTRATION ...	334,053	367,500	425,600	58,100	...	367,600	-58,000
MINOR DEPARTMENTS ...	29,688	39,400	34,400	...	5,000	21,000	-13,400
LAW AND JUSTICE ...	43	2,000	1,700	...	300	2,500	+800
MARINE ...	160,433	144,800	127,200	...	17,600	139,400	+12,200
ECCLESIASTICAL ...	1,950	900	1,400	500	...	900	-500
MEDICAL ...	...	6,800	6,800	...	...	6,800	...
POLITICAL AGENCIES ...	34,926	43,000	41,900	...	1,100	33,000	-8,900
ALLOWANCES AND ASSIGN- MENTS UNDER TREATIES AND ENGAGEMENTS ...	19,336	19,400	19,400	...	...	19,400	...
CIVIL, FURLOUGH AND ABSEN- TEE ALLOWANCES ...	260,556	277,000	221,000	...	56,000	221,000	...
SUPERANNUATION, RETIRED AND COMPASSIONATE ALLOW- ANCES ...	860,506	1,118,000	1,148,000	30,000	...	1,167,500	+19,500
MISCELLANEOUS ...	34,339	25,200	36,200	11,000	...	26,200	-10,000
ALLOTMENTS FOR PROVIN- CIAL SERVICES ...	...	...	1,000	1,000	...	600	-400
FAMINE RELIEF ...	13,250	58,000	71,100	13,100	...	Nil	-71,100
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	<b>4,390,431</b>	<b>4,598,400</b>	<b>4,564,900</b>	...	<b>33,500</b>	<b>4,391,100</b>	<b>-173,800</b>
ARMY ...	3,355,333	3,517,300	3,628,700	111,400	...	3,752,600	+123,900
PUBLIC WORKS, ORDINARY ...	126,337	83,800	114,300	30,500	...	83,800	-30,500
GUARANTEED INTEREST LESS NET TRAFFIC RECEIPTS ...	1,437,352	1,394,000	1,132,000	...	262,000	1,583,000	+451,000
	9,309,453	9,593,500	9,439,900	...	153,600	9,810,500	+370,600
PUBLIC WORKS, EXTRAORDINARY ...	1,010,665	1,143,000	1,137,600	...	5,400	699,800	-437,800
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b> ...	<b>10,320,118</b>	<b>10,736,500</b>	<b>10,577,500</b>	...	<b>159,000</b>	<b>10,510,300</b>	<b>-67,200</b>

E. F. HARRISON,

Comptroller General.

R. B. CHAPMAN,

Secy. to the Govt. of India.

# RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS AT THE TREASURIES

RECEIPTS.	ACCOUNTS, 1873-74.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	REGULAR ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	INCREASE.	DECREASE.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1875-76.	ESTIMATED INCREASE COMPARED WITH BUDGET ESTIMATES 1874-75.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
I.—OPENING BALANCE ...	21,786,137	16,143,838	16,048,498	...	95,340	18,386,198	+2,337,700
II.—IMPERIAL REVENUE ...	49,611,711	48,984,000	50,070,000	1,086,000	...	49,820,000	—250,000
III.—TRAFFIC EARNINGS OF GUARANTEED RAILWAYS	7,641,042	7,387,000	8,245,400	858,400	...	7,449,900	—191,500
IV.—PROVINCIAL REVENUE ...	6,624,496	6,130,200	12,532,800	2,508,000	...	10,832,700	—1,700,100
V.—LOCAL REVENUE ...	4,159,661	3,171,600					
VI.—MUNICIPAL INCOME ...	828,384	723,000					
VII.—SERVICE FUNDS, CIVIL ...	891,828	479,500	507,000	27,500	...	494,000	—13,000
VIII.—SERVICE FUNDS, MILITARY	16	3,500	...	...	3,500	...	...
IX.—LOANS TO NATIVE STATES CORPORATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS REPAYED ...	123,685	110,000	174,000	64,000	...	131,000	—43,000
X.—SAVINGS BANKS DEPOSITS	1,177,352	900,000	821,000	...	79,000	826,000	+5,000
XI.—OTHER DEPOSITS RECEIVED & ADVANCES RECOVERED	12,122,026	8,500,000	13,879,700	5,379,700	...	9,690,700	—4,189,000
XII.—LOCAL REMITTANCES ...	656,641	280,000	404,000	124,000	...	298,000	—106,000
XIII.—INTER-PROVINCIAL AND INTER-DEPARTMENTAL TRANSACTIONS ...	16,839,140	17,376,000	13,765,000	...	3,611,000	16,591,000	+2,826,000
XIV.—REMITTANCE ACCOUNT WITH THE HOME TREASURY ...	1,732,349	1,082,600	1,013,000	...	69,600	939,000	—74,000
XV.—SECRETARY OF STATE'S BILLS ON INDIA SOLD...	13,285,678	10,000,000	10,842,000	842,000	...	14,300,000	+3,458,000
XVI.—SUNDRY OBLIGATIONS IN- CURRED ...	489,405	533,000	514,000	...	19,000	502,000	—12,000
XVII.—PUBLIC DEBT INCURRED...	2,109,377	9,138,400	9,242,000	103,600	...	3,300,000	—5,942,000
XVIII.—GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPITAL RECEIVED ...	2,924,829	2,153,200	2,081,300	...	71,900	2,147,900	+66,000
TOTAL ...	142,993,757	133,095,838	140,139,698	10,993,200	3,949,340	135,708,398	—4,431,300

*Abstract of the above shewing how the*

ACCOUNTS, 1873-74.			REGULAR ESTIMATES, 1874-75.		
	£			£	
CASH BALANCE REDUCED ...	5,737,639	DEFICIT OF IMPERIAL REVENUE ...	5,346,044	SERVICE FUNDS, CIVIL ...	116,000
SERVICE FUNDS, CIVIL ...	68,614	DEFICIT OF PROVINCIAL, LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL REVENUE ...	483,574	SAVINGS BANKS DEPOSITS ...	60,000
SAVINGS BANKS DEPOSITS ...	258,694	SERVICE FUNDS, MILITARY ...	366,472	DEPOSITS RECEIVED AND ADVANCES RECOVERED ...	164,200
DEPOSITS RECEIVED AND ADVANCES RECOVERED ...	163,457	LOANS TO NATIVE STATES, CORPORATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS ...	457,164	SUNDRY OBLIGATIONS ...	219,700
SUNDRY OBLIGATIONS ...	202,877	PUBLIC DEBT PAID OFF ...	36,078	REMITTANCES ...	39,300
REMITTANCES ...	125,120			PUBLIC DEBT INCURRED ...	8,494,900
GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPITAL RECEIVED ...	132,922				
TOTAL ...	6,689,332	TOTAL ...	6,689,332	TOTAL ...	9,094,100

PORT WILLIAM;  
FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT,  
The 13<sup>th</sup> March 1875.

EDWARD GAY,  
Deputy Comptroller General



# THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, IN INDIA AND IN ENGLAND.

DISBURSEMENTS.	ACCOUNTS, 1873-74.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	REGULAR ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	INCREASE.	DECREASE.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1875-76.	ESTIMATES, 1875-76, COMPARED WITH REGULAR ESTIMATES, 1874-75.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
IMPERIAL EXPENDITURE ...	53,520,404	54,935,000	53,526,000	...	1,409,000	52,031,000	-1,495,000
WORKING EXPENSES OF GUAR- ANTEED RAILWAYS ...	4,410,488	4,085,000	4,683,400	598,400	...	4,307,900	-375,500
INTEREST ON GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPITAL SUPPLIED FROM SURPLUS EARNINGS...	4,667,905	3,302,000	4,694,000	1,392,000	...	4,725,000	+31,000
PROVINCIAL EXPENDITURE ...	7,032,048	6,224,400	12,546,000	1,913,500	...	11,189,000	-1,357,000
LOCAL EXPENDITURE ...	4,247,210	3,627,100					
MUNICIPAL EXPENDITURE ...	806,857	781,000					
SERVICE FUNDS, CIVIL ...	823,214	379,700	391,000	11,300	...	433,600	+42,600
SERVICE FUNDS, MILITARY ...	366,488	361,800	365,200	3,400	...	313,000	-52,200
LOANS ADVANCED TO NATIVE STATES, CORPORATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS ...	580,849	610,000	1,027,200	417,200	...	500,000	-527,200
SAVINGS BANKS DEPOSITS WITHDRAWN ...	918,658	900,000	761,000	...	139,000	744,000	-17,000
OTHER DEPOSITS REPAID AND ADVANCES MADE ...	11,958,569	8,080,000	13,715,500	5,635,500	...	8,595,000	-5,120,500
LOCAL REMITTANCES ...	1,041,254	280,000	404,000	124,000	...	298,000	-106,000
INTER-PROVINCIAL AND IN- TER-DEPARTMENTAL TRANS- ACTIONS ...	16,462,721	17,376,000	13,765,000	...	3,611,000	16,591,000	+2,826,000
REMITTANCE ACCOUNT WITH THE HOME TREASURY ...	1,603,899	1,082,600	939,500	...	143,100	1,030,000	+90,500
SECRETARY OF STATE'S BILLS ON INDIA PAID ...	13,280,805	10,000,000	10,876,200	876,200	...	14,300,000	+3,423,800
SUNDRY OBLIGATIONS DIS- CHARGED ...	286,528	269,600	294,300	24,700	...	308,700	+14,400
PUBLIC DEBT DISCHARGED ...	2,145,455	638,400	747,100	108,700	...	464,000	-283,100
GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPI- TAL WITHDRAWN ...	2,791,907	3,621,900	3,018,100	...	603,800	2,781,600	-236,500
CLOSING BALANCE ...	16,048,498	16,541,338	18,386,198	1,844,860	...	17,096,598	-1,289,600
TOTAL ...	142,993,757	133,095,838	140,139,698	12,949,760	5,905,900	135,708,398	-4,431,300

ways and means are provided.

BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1874-75.		BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1875-76.	
	£		£
DEFICIT OF IMPERIAL RE- VENUE ...	4,588,000	SERVICE FUNDS, CIVIL ...	60,400
DEFICIT OF PROVINCIAL, LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL REVENUE ...	13,200	DEPOSITS RECEIVED AND AD- VANCES RECOVERED ...	1,095,700
SERVICE FUNDS, MILITARY ...	365,200	SUNDRY OBLIGATIONS ...	193,300
LOANS TO NATIVE STATES, COR- PORATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS ...	853,200	PUBLIC DEBT INCURRED ...	2,836,000
GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPI- TAL WITHDRAWN ...	936,800	SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS ...	82,000
CASH BALANCE INCREASED ...	2,337,700	CASH BALANCE REDUCED ...	1,289,600
TOTAL ...	9,094,100	TOTAL ...	5,557,000
		DEFICIT OF IMPERIAL RE- VENUE ...	3,794,000
		DEFICIT OF PROVINCIAL, LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL REVENUE ...	356,300
		SERVICE FUNDS, MILITARY ...	313,000
		LOANS TO NATIVE STATES, COR- PORATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS ...	369,000
		GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPI- TAL WITHDRAWN ...	635,700
		REMITTANCES ...	91,000
		TOTAL ...	5,557,000

E. F. HARRISON,  
Comptroller General.

R. B. CHAPMAN,  
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

## RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS AT THE INDIA

RECEIPTS.	ACCOUNTS, 1873-74.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	REGULAR ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	INCREASE.	DECREASE.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1875-76.	EXCESS 1875-76 COMPARED WITH REGULAR ESTIMATES, 1874-75.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
I.—OPENING BALANCE ..	18,787,693	14,123,693	14,033,442	...	90,251	15,700,042	+1,666,600
II.—IMPERIAL REVENUE ...	49,360,142	48,816,900	49,725,700	908,800	...	49,633,000	—92,000
III.—TRAFFIC EARNINGS OF GUARANTEED RAILWAYS	7,641,042	7,387,000	8,245,400	858,400	...	7,449,900	—191,500
IV.—PROVINCIAL REVENUE ..	6,624,496	6,130,200	12,532,800	2,508,000	...	10,832,700	—1,700,100
V.—LOCAL REVENUE ...	4,159,661	3,171,600					
VI.—MUNICIPAL INCOME ...	818,384	723,000					
VII.—SERVICE FUNDS, CIVIL ...	891,828	479,500	507,000	27,500	...	494,000	—13,000
VIII.—SERVICE FUNDS, MILITARY	16	3,500	...	...	3,500	...	...
IX.—LOANS TO NATIVE STATES CORPORATIONS AND IN- DIVIDUALS RE-PAID ...	123,685	110,000	174,000	64,000	...	131,000	—43,000
X.—SAVINGS BANKS DEPOSITS	1,177,352	900,000	821,000	...	79,000	826,000	+5,000
XI.—OTHER DEPOSITS RECEIVED & ADVANCES RECOVERED	12,116,434	8,497,000	13,870,500	5,373,500	...	9,687,700	—4,182,800
XII.—LOCAL REMITTANCES ...	656,641	280,000	404,000	124,000	...	298,000	—106,000
XIII.—INTER-PROVINCIAL AND INTER-DEPARTMENTAL TRANSACTIONS ...	16,839,140	17,376,000	13,765,000	...	3,611,000	16,591,000	+2,826,000
XIV.—REMITTANCE ACCOUNT WITH THE HOME TREASURY ...	1,505,934	1,019,600	876,000	...	143,600	844,000	—32,000
XV.—SECRETARY OF STATE'S BILLS ON INDIA SOLD ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
XVI.—SUNDRY OBLIGATIONS IN- CURRED ...	489,405	533,000	514,000	...	19,000	502,000	—12,000
XVII.—PUBLIC DEBT INCURRED	1,085,377	4,138,400	4,171,000	32,600	...	3,300,000	—871,000
XVIII.—GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPITAL RECEIVED ...	1,596,993	1,319,600	1,350,100	30,500	...	1,227,600	—122,500
TOTAL	123,874,223	115,008,993	120,989,942	9,927,300	3,946,351	117,516,942	—3,473,000

*Abstract of the above showing how the*

ACCOUNTS, 1873-74.			REGULAR EST.		
	£			£	
CASH BALANCE REDUCED ...	4,754,251	DEFICIT OF PROVINCIAL, LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL REVENUE	483,574	IMPERIAL REVENUE ...	5,610,000
IMPERIAL REVENUE ...	4,686,130	SERVICE FUNDS, MILITARY ...	366,472	GUARANTEED RAILWAYS TRAFFIC EARNINGS ...	3,562,000
GUARANTEED RAILWAYS TRAFFIC EARNINGS ...	3,230,554	LOANS TO NATIVE STATES CORPORATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS	457,164	SERVICE FUNDS, CIVIL ...	116,000
DEPOSITS RECEIVED AND ADVANCES RECOVERED ...	163,097	SECRETARY OF STATE'S BILLS PAID ...	13,280,805	SAVINGS BANKS DEPOSITS ...	60,000
SERVICE FUNDS, CIVIL ...	68,614	PUBLIC DEBT PAID OFF ...	41,078	DEPOSITS RECEIVED AND ADVANCES RECOVERED ...	156,000
SAVINGS BANKS DEPOSITS ...	258,694			SUNDRY OBLIGATIONS ...	219,700
REMITTANCES ...	1,189,507			REMITTANCES ...	723,300
SUNDRY OBLIGATIONS ...	202,877			PUBLIC DEBT INCURRED ...	3,424,900
GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPITAL RECEIVED ...	75,369				
TOTAL ...	14,629,093	TOTAL ...	14,629,093	TOTAL ...	13,873,100

FORT WILLIAM;  
 FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

EDWARD GAY,



# EXPENDITURES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DISBURSEMENTS.	ACCOUNTS, 1873-74.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	REGULAR ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	INCREASE.	DECREASE.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1875-76.	ESTIMATES, 1875-76, COMPARED WITH REGULAR ESTIMATES, 1874-75.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
IMPERIAL EXPENDITURE ...	44,637,637	44,198,500	44,080,500	...	118,000	43,103,700	-976,800
WORKING EXPENSES OF GUAR- ANTEED RAILWAYS ...	4,410,488	4,085,000	4,683,400	598,400	...	4,307,900	-375,500
INTEREST ON GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPITAL SUPPLIED FROM SURPLUS EARNINGS ...	36,375	36,000	34,600	...	1,400	35,000	+400
PROVINCIAL EXPENDITURE ...	7,032,048	6,224,400	12,546,000	1,913,500	...	11,189,000	-1,357,000
LOCAL EXPENDITURE ...	4,247,210	3,627,100					
MUNICIPAL EXPENDITURE ...	806,857	781,000					
SERVICE FUNDS, CIVIL ...	823,214	379,700	391,000	11,300	...	433,600	+42,600
SERVICE FUNDS, MILITARY ...	366,488	361,800	365,200	3,400	...	313,000	-52,200
LOANS ADVANCED TO NATIVE STATES, CORPORATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS ...	580,849	610,000	1,027,200	417,200	...	500,000	-527,200
SAVINGS BANKS DEPOSITS WITHDRAWN ...	918,658	900,000	761,000	...	139,000	744,000	-17,000
OTHER DEPOSITS REPAID AND ADVANCES MADE ...	11,953,337	8,077,000	13,714,100	5,637,100	...	8,592,000	-5,122,100
LOCAL REMITTANCES ...	1,041,254	280,000	404,000	124,000	...	298,000	-106,000
INTER-PROVINCIAL AND IN- TER-DEPARTMENTAL TRANS- ACTIONS ...	16,462,721	17,376,000	13,765,000	...	3,611,000	16,591,000	+2,826,000
REMITTANCE ACCOUNT WITH THE HOME TREASURY ...	308,233	139,400	152,500	13,100	...	134,500	-18,000
SECRETARY OF STATE'S BILLS ON INDIA PAID ...	13,280,805	10,000,000	10,876,200	876,200	...	14,300,000	+3,423,800
SUNDRY OBLIGATIONS DIS- CHARGED ...	286,528	269,600	294,300	24,700	...	308,700	+14,400
PUBLIC DEBT DISCHARGED ...	1,126,455	638,400	746,100	107,700	...	464,000	-282,100
GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPI- TAL WITHDRAWN ...	1,521,624	1,752,500	1,448,800	...	303,700	1,234,900	-213,900
CLOSING BALANCE ...	14,033,442	15,272,593	15,700,042	427,449	...	14,967,642	-732,400
TOTAL ...	123,874,223	115,008,993	120,989,942	10,154,049	4,173,100	117,516,942	-3,473,000

ways and means are provided

1873-74.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1875-76.	
£	£	£
DEFICIT OF PROVINCIAL, LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL REVENUE ...	CASH BALANCE REDUCED ...	DEFICIT OF PROVINCIAL, LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL REVENUE ...
13,200	732,400	356,300
SERVICE FUNDS, MILITARY ...	IMPERIAL REVENUE ...	SERVICE FUNDS, MILITARY ...
365,200	6,494,300	313,000
LOANS TO NATIVE STATES, COR- PORATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS ...	GUARANTEED RAILWAYS TRAF- FIC EARNINGS ...	LOANS TO NATIVE STATES, COR- PORATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS ...
853,200	3,142,000	369,000
SECRETARY OF STATE'S BILLS PAID ...	SERVICE FUNDS, CIVIL ...	SECRETARY OF STATE'S BILLS PAID ...
10,876,200	60,400	14,300,000
CLOSING BALANCE INCREASED ...	SAVINGS BANKS DEPOSITS ...	GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPITAL WITHDRAWN ...
1,666,600	82,000	7,300
GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPI- TAL WITHDRAWN ...	DEPOSITS RECEIVED AND AD- VANCES RECOVERED ...	
98,700	1,095,700	
	REMITTANCES ...	
	709,500	
	SUNDRY OBLIGATIONS ...	
	193,300	
	PUBLIC DEBT INCURRED ...	
	2,836,000	
TOTAL ...	TOTAL ...	TOTAL ...
13,873,100	15,345,600	15,345,600

E. F. HARRISON,

R. B. CHAPMAN,



# RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS AT THE T

RECEIPTS.	ACCOUNTS, 1873-74.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	REGULAR ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	INCREASE.	DECREASE.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1875-76.	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BUDGET ESTIMATES AND REGULAR ESTIMATES
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
I.—OPENING BALANCE ...	2,998,444	2,020,145	2,015,056		5,089	2,686,156	+671,101
II.—IMPERIAL REVENUE ...	251,569	167,100	344,300	177,200		187,000	-17,300
III.—TRAFFIC EARNINGS OF GUARANTEED RAILWAYS ...	...	...	...				
IV.—PROVINCIAL REVENUE ...	...	...	...				
V.—LOCAL REVENUE ...	...	...	...				
VI.—MUNICIPAL INCOME ...	...	...	...				
VII.—SERVICE FUNDS, CIVIL ...	...	...	...				
VIII.—SERVICE FUNDS, MILITARY ...	...	...	...				
IX.—LOANS TO NATIVE STATES, CORPORATIONS AND IN- DIVIDUALS REPAID ...	...	...	...				
X.—SAVINGS BANKS DEPOSITS ...	...	...	...				
XI.—OTHER DEPOSITS RECEIV- ED AND ADVANCES RE- COVERED ...	5,592	3,000	9,200	6,200		3,000	-6,200
XII.—LOCAL REMITTANCES ...	...	...	...				
XIII.—INTER-PROVINCIAL AND INTER-DEPARTMENTAL TRANSACTIONS ...	...	...	...				
XIV.—REMITTANCE ACCOUNT WITH THE HOME TREA- SURY ...	226,415	63,000	137,000	74,000		95,000	-41,000
XV.—SECRETARY OF STATE'S BILLS ON INDIA SOLD ...	13,285,678	10,000,000	10,842,000	842,000		14,300,000	+3,457,922
XVI.—SUNDY OBLIGATIONS IN- CURRED ...	...	...	...				
XVII.—PUBLIC DEBT INCURRED ...	1,024,000	5,000,000	5,071,000	71,000			-5,071,000
XVIII.—GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPITAL RECEIVED ...	1,327,836	833,600	731,200		102,400	920,300	+187,536
TOTAL ...	19,119,534	18,086,845	19,149,756	1,170,400	107,489	18,191,456	-958,088

Abstract of the above showing how

ACCOUNTS, 1873-74.		REGULAR ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	
	£		£
SECRETARY OF STATE'S BILLS SOLD ...	13,285,678	EXCESS OF IMPERIAL EXPEN- DITURE OVER REVENUE ...	8,631,198
CASH BALANCE REDUCED ...	983,388	INTEREST ON GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPITAL ...	4,631,530
DEPOSITS RECEIVED AND AD- VANCES RECOVERED ...	360	REMITTANCES ...	1,069,251
PUBLIC DEBT INCURRED ...	5,000		
GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPITAL RECEIVED ...	57,553		
TOTAL ...	14,331,979	TOTAL ...	14,331,979

PORT WILLIAM;  
FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT,  
The 13th March 1875.

EDWARD GAY,  
Deputy Comptroller General

# **ANNUAL SURVEY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA IN ENGLAND.**

DISBURSEMENTS.	ACCOUNTS, 1873-74.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	REGULAR ESTIMATES, 1874-75.	INCREASE.	DECREASE.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1875-76.	ESTIMATES, 1875-76, COMPARED WITH REGULAR ESTIMATES, 1874-75.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1.—IMPERIAL EXPENDITURE ...	8,882,767	10,736,500	9,445,500	...	1,291,000	8,927,300	— 518,200
2.—WORKING EXPENSES OF GUAR- ANTEED RAILWAYS ...		...					
3.—INTEREST ON GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPITAL SUPPLI- ED FROM SURPLUS EARNINGS	4,631,530	3,266,000	4,659,400	1,393,400	...	4,690,000	+ 30,600
4.—PROVINCIAL EXPENDITURE ...							
5.—LOCAL EXPENDITURE ...							
6.—MUNICIPAL EXPENDITURE ...							
7.—SERVICE FUNDS, CIVIL ...							
8.—SERVICE FUNDS, MILITARY ...							
9.—LOANS ADVANCED TO NATIVE STATES, CORPORATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS ...							
10.—SAVINGS BANKS DEPOSITS WITHDRAWN ...							
11.—OTHER DEPOSITS REPAID AND ADVANCES MADE ...	5,232	3,000	1,400	...	1,600	3,000	+ 1,600
12.—LOCAL REMITTANCES ...							
13.—INTER-PROVINCIAL AND IN- TER-DEPARTMENTAL TRANS- ACTIONS ...							
14.—REMITTANCE ACCOUNT WITH THE HOME TREASURY ...	1,295,666	943,200	787,000	...	156,200	895,500	+ 105,500
15.—SECRETARY OF STATE'S BILLS ON INDIA PAID ...							
16.—SUNDRY OBLIGATIONS DIS- CHARGED ...			1,000	1,000	...		— 1,000
17.—PUBLIC DEBT DISCHARGED ...	1,019,000						
18.—GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPI- TAL WITHDRAWN ...	1,270,283	1,869,400	1,569,300	...	300,100	1,546,700	— 22,600
19.—CLOSING BALANCE ...	2,015,056	1,268,745	2,686,166	1,417,411	...	2,128,956	— 557,200
TOTAL ...	19,119,534	18,086,845	19,149,756	2,811,811	1,748,900	18,191,456	— 958,300

ways and means are provided.

MATES, 1874-75.	BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1875-76.
£	£
EXCESS OF IMPERIAL EXPEND- ITURE OVER REVENUE ... 9,101,200	CASH BALANCE REDUCED ... 557,200
INTEREST ON GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPITAL ... 4,659,400	SECRETARY OF STATE'S BILLS SOLD ... 14,300,000
REMITTANCES ... 650,000	EXCESS OF IMPERIAL EXPEND- ITURE OVER REVENUE ... 8,740,300
GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPI- TAL WITHDRAWN ... 838,100	INTEREST ON GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPITAL ... 4,690,000
CASH BALANCE INCREASED ... 671,100	REMITTANCES ... 800,500
	GUARANTEED RAILWAY CAPI- TAL WITHDRAWN ... 626,400
TOTAL ... 15,919,300	TOTAL ... 14,857,200

E. F. HARRISON,  
*Comptroller General.*

R. B. CHAPMAN,  
*Secy. to the Govt. of India.*



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# The Gazette of India, EXTRAORDINARY. Published by Authority.

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SIMLA, FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1875.

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FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

No. 1125P.

NOTIFICATION.

*Simla, the 19th April 1875.*

POLITICAL.

PROCLAMATION.

To all whom it may concern :—

His Highness Mulhar Rao, Gaekwar, was suspended from the exercise of power, and the administration of the Baroda State was temporarily assumed by the British Government, in order that a public enquiry might be made into the truth of the imputation that His Highness had instigated an attempt to poison Colonel R. Phayre, C. B., the late Representative of the British Government at the Court of Baroda, and that every opportunity should be given to His Highness of freeing himself from the said imputation.

The proceedings of the Commission having been brought to a close, Her Majesty's Government have taken into consideration the question whether His Highness Mulhar Rao, Gaekwar, shall be restored to the exercise of sovereign power in the State of Baroda.

The Commissioners being divided in opinion, Her Majesty's Government have not based their decision on the enquiry or report of the Commission, nor have they assumed that the result of the enquiry has been to prove the truth of the imputations against His Highness.

Having regard, however, to all the circumstances relating to the affairs of Baroda from the accession of His Highness Mulhar Rao, Gaekwar, to the present time, his notorious misconduct, his gross misgovernment of the State, and his evident incapacity to carry into effect the necessary reforms; having also considered the opinion of the Government of India that it would be detrimental to the interests of the people of Baroda and inconsistent with the



maintenance of the relations which ought to subsist between the British Government and the Baroda State that His Highness should be restored to power, Her Majesty's Government have decided that His Highness Mulhar Rao, Gaekwar, shall be deposed from the Sovereignty of Baroda, and that he and his issue shall be hereafter precluded from all rights, honors, and privileges thereto appertaining.

Accordingly His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council hereby declares that His Highness Mulhar Rao, Gaekwar, is deposed from the Sovereignty of the Baroda State, and that he and his issue are precluded from all rights, honors, and privileges thereto appertaining.

Mulhar Rao will be permitted to select some place in British India, which may be approved by the Government of India, where he and his family shall reside with a suitable establishment and allowances to be provided from the revenues of the Baroda State.

Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, in re-establishing a Native Administration in the Baroda State, being desirous to mark her sense of the loyal services of His Highness Khundee Rao, Gaekwar, in 1857, has been pleased to accede to the request of his widow, Her Highness Jumnabae, that she may be allowed to adopt some member of the Gaekwar House whom the Government of India may select as the most suitable person upon whom to confer the Sovereignty of the Baroda State.

The necessary steps will accordingly be immediately taken to carry into effect Her Majesty's commands. In the meantime, with the consent of His Highness the Maharaja of Indore, Sir Madava Rao, K. C. S. I., will at once proceed to Baroda, and conduct the administration of the State as Prime Minister, under instructions which he will receive from the Governor General's Agent and Special Commissioner at Baroda.

In conferring the Sovereignty of the Baroda State, no alteration will be made in the treaty engagements which exist between the British Government and the Gaekwars of Baroda, and the new Gaekwar will enjoy all the privileges and advantages which were conveyed to the Gaekwar of Baroda in the Sunnud of Earl Canning, dated the 11th of March 1862.

By order of His Excellency the Viceroy  
and Governor General of India in Council,

C. U. AITCHISON,  
*Secretary to the Government of India.*



# The Gazette of India, EXTRAORDINARY.

Published by Authority.

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SIMLA, SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 1875.

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FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

NOTIFICATION.

No. 1109P.

*EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Government of India in the Foreign Department (Political),—dated Simla, the 21st April 1875.*

READ the undermentioned papers:—

Resolution No. 1106P., dated 21st April, and the documents thereto appended.

RESOLUTION.—His Highness Mulhar Rao, Gaekwar, was suspended from the exercise of power, and the administration of the Baroda State was temporarily assumed by the British Government, in order that a public enquiry might be made into the truth of the imputation that His Highness had instigated an attempt to poison Colonel R. Phayre, C. B., the late Representative of the British Government at the Court of Baroda, and that every opportunity should be given to His Highness of freeing himself from the said imputation.

Sir R. Couch, Chief Justice of Bengal, the Maharaja of Gwalior, the Maharaja of Jeypoor, Colonel Sir R. Meade, Chief Commissioner of Mysore and Coorg, Raja Sir Dinkur Rao, and Mr. P. S. Melvill, of the Bengal Civil Service, were appointed Commissioners for the purpose of enquiring into the said imputation, and of reporting to the Viceroy and Governor General in Council how far the same was true to the best of their judgment and belief.

The Government of India desire to convey to the Chief Justice and the Members of the Commission their thanks for having accepted this onerous and responsible duty.

The reports of the Commissioners, who are divided in opinion, are now published for general information, together with the conclusions at which the Government of India have arrived after a full and deliberate consideration of the evidence, the arguments of Counsel, and the opinions which the Commissioners have expressed.

ORDER.—Ordered, that the foregoing Resolution and the documents therein referred to be transmitted to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India in Council, and that they also be published in the *Gazette of India*.

By order of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council,

C. U. AITCHISON,

Secretary to the Government of India.



No. 1106 P.

# RESOLUTION.

Read the following papers:—\*

1. Proclamation, dated 13th January 1875, suspending His Highness Mulhar Rao Gaekwar in order to enquire into the imputation that he instigated an attempt to poison the British Resident at Baroda.
2. Notification, dated 15th February 1875, appointing a Commission to enquire into the imputation.
3. Official notes of evidence and exhibits in the case (the vernacular documents being translated).
4. Printed notes of the arguments of Counsel.
5. Joint Report, dated 31st March 1875, and signed by Sir R. Couch, Sir R. Meade, and Mr. P. S. Melvill.
6. Separate opinion by Maharaja Sindia, dated 27th March 1875.
7. Separate opinion by the Maharaja of Jeypoor, dated 27th March 1875.
8. Separate opinion by Raja Sir Dinkur Rao, dated 26th March 1875.

1. The documents which are abovementioned as read, and which are also appended to this Resolution, show the steps taken in the enquiry relative to the conduct of His Highness Mulhar Rao Gaekwar of Baroda, and it will not be necessary here to refer to the particulars shown therein, except for the purpose of elucidating the conclusion about to be expressed. The Princes and Gentlemen who have served on the Commission of Enquiry have completed their laborious task by submitting their several opinions on the case. It now remains for the Government of India to express the conclusions at which they have arrived after full consideration of the evidence, the arguments of Counsel, and the various opinions entertained by the Commissioners.

2. Sir Richard Couch, Sir Richard Meade, and Mr. Melvill are all agreed that the Gaekwar is guilty of the offences imputed to him. To repeat here the most heinous and comprehensive of those imputations, they find "That an attempt to poison Colonel Phayre was made by persons instigated thereto by Mulhar Rao Gaekwar."

3. The Maharaja Sindia appears to assume that the existence of communications between the Gaekwar and the servants of the Residency, and also that the actual administration of poison to Colonel Phayre, are proved, though he does not expressly state those conclusions. But of the communications with servants he says, "As regards the communication with servants night or day, this is no matter of importance. These visits and requests for presents on marriage and other festive occasions and the means to secure the favor of the Resident, as well as the procuring of information regarding each other, are matters in accordance with the practice of other Native Princes and persons who have connection with the Residency." And he thinks that the connection of the Gaekwar with the act of poisoning is not proved. His conclusion is thus stated: "As to the attempt at poisoning, from the whole case as it came before me, as far as my judgment and belief go, I am not convinced that the charge is proved against Mulhar Rao."

4. The Maharaja of Jeypoor thinks that it is proved that the Gaekwar gave sums of money to the Residency servants, and also that poison was administered to Colonel Phayre. Of the communications with servants he

\* NOTE.—Nos. 1 and 2 have already been published in the *Gazette of India* of the 16th January and 20th February 1875 respectively; Nos. 3 and 4, being bulky, will be published hereafter.

speaks thus: "The statements made by Amina ayah and several other Residency servants establish the fact that sums of money had actually been given to the ayah and to other servants of the Residency at different times, by order of His Highness the Gaekwar. These sums of money, however, do not appear to have been given out of any motives to tamper with the Residency servants for improper purposes, but simply as presents from the Gaekwar, and such as are generally given on occasions of marriage and national festivals." His Highness then proceeds to dwell upon various defects in the evidence, which will presently be noticed more at length, and concludes thus: "For reasons stated above, I cannot persuade myself to believe that the Gaekwar was in any way implicated in the charge, notwithstanding the fact of poison having been found in Colonel Phayre's tumbler of sherbet, and the uncorroborated evidence of the three accomplices, Raoji, Narsu, and Damodhur Punt."

5. The opinion of Raja Sir Dinkur Rao is almost identical with that of the Maharaja Sindia, and need not be stated more in detail here.

6. No one of the Commissioners suggests that the poison could have been administered by any other person than the Residency servant Raoji, aided by his superior Narsu.

7. If the matter were simply left to stand upon the opinions given by the Commissioners, it would follow that the Gaekwar, having had the opportunity afforded him to clear himself from the imputations made against him, has not cleared himself. Three out of the six Commissioners who have entered upon the enquiry are of opinion that he is proved to be guilty. Now, when three gentlemen, of great experience in the ways of this country and in weighing and drawing inferences from evidence, unite in an opinion condemnatory of a person into whose actions it has been their duty to enquire, and that opinion is not set aside by superior authority, it is impossible to say but that there must rest at least a grave suspicion on the person so condemned.

8. But the Government of India do not think it right to leave the matter as it stands on the reports of the Commissioners. The Commission was not a judicial tribunal, but was appointed for the purpose of informing the mind of the Government of India by enquiry and report. Even had the Commissioners been unanimous, the Government of India would have thought it their duty to examine the matter for themselves, to form and pronounce an opinion. As the Commissioners are at variance with one another, it is due to them, and to all parties concerned in the matter, that the Government of India should not only express their conclusions, but should also state the principal considerations which have led them to form those conclusions.

9. The opinions of the three Commissioners who have signed separate reports, the tenor of which has been stated, are founded partly on points of conduct or general improbabilities affecting the evidence given by the witnesses against the Gaekwar, and partly on special points of inconsistency or infirmity in the evidence itself. The Government of India will take the former class of considerations first. They propose to notice the main points of dispute, but not to give here a detailed narration of the body of the evidence, for which reference must be made to the documents contained in the Appendix.

10. In the first place then, it is to be observed that the intercourse which is proved to have taken place between the Gaekwar and the Residency servants was personal intercourse, carried on by night and in a secret way, and was accompanied by considerable gifts of money. This is proved by a number of independent witnesses, who speak directly to the facts, whose evidence is quite consistent upon the main points, was unshaken by cross-examination, and when it could be tested by reference to external facts, such as the character of the building to which they were taken, the recollections of the persons who took them there, and the recollections of the persons who were privy to the



payment of money, was found to answer to the test. There is no counter-evidence on these points. Indeed, the Gaekwar himself does not deny the facts. He has put in a carefully worded statement in which he says not that he did not hold personal intercourse with, or that he did not cause money to be paid to, the Residency servants, but only that he did not do so for the purpose of getting information.

11. Neither is there any counter-evidence, nor, so far as the Government of India observe, any suggestion, to displace the assertion of Raoji that his hand administered the poison which was administered to Colonel Phayre, or that of Narsu that he aided Raoji in that matter.

12. It appears then to the Government of India that the evidence establishes beyond the possibility of contradiction two cardinal points: first, that the Gaekwar was in personal secret communication carried on by night with five servants employed at the Residency, and that he gave money to Raoji, Narsu, and Amina, three of those servants: and secondly, that a serious attempt was made to administer a fatal dose of poison to Colonel Phayre by the agency of two of those servants, *viz.*, Raoji and Narsu. And they do not collect that any one of the three Commissioners who have signed separate reports, means to dissent from either of these two propositions, though their assent has not been expressed in so many terms.

13. Now, the proof of these two points carries the case a very long way. The great difficulty at the outset was the antecedent improbability that such a personage as the Gaekwar of Baroda should carry on frequent secret personal intercourse by night with a number of the Residency servants. When it becomes clear that he did so, the only question is whether such intercourse is wholly disconnected with the acts which those servants did, or whether the acts were the designed outcome of the intercourse. And on this question the antecedent improbability is all the other way. No motive whatever has been assigned for the action of Raoji and Narsu, except the motive of earning reward from the Gaekwar. And it is much more probable that the two series of proved phenomena, which have been mentioned, should be connected as cause and effect, than that they should be wholly independent of one another.

14. It is indeed true that the three Commissioners who have signed separate reports treat the Gaekwar's intercourse with the Residency servants in a very light manner. Their opinions have been set forth above in paragraphs 3 and 4. But whatever the custom may be at other Native Courts, the Government of India think that these opinions must have been written without due consideration of the facts which actually appear in evidence against the Gaekwar.

15. There is no evidence of any general distribution by the Gaekwar of gifts among the Residency servants on marriage or other festive occasions, such as, if made in moderation, might be of an innocent character. The evidence shows that gifts were made only to certain servants with whom the Gaekwar sought personal intercourse, and that those gifts were, relatively to the position of the servants, of very large amount. For example, a single gift to Raoji amounted to about four times his annual pay. The evidence therefore points not to a mere desire on the part of the Gaekwar to gain the general goodwill and good offices of the Residency servants, but to an intention on his part to bribe some of them to the performance of important services.

16. Moreover, it is observable that the Gaekwar himself seems anxious to disconnect himself from the very practice which the passage quoted from the report of the Maharaja Sindia ascribes to him, while excusing it on the ground of its frequency, *viz.*, payment of money in order to procure information. In his written statement the Gaekwar speaks as follows:—

“I declare that I never personally directed any of the Residency servants to act as spies on the Resident, or report to me what was going on at the



Residency, nor did I ever offer or cause to be paid any money to them for such purposes.

"I say nothing as to the presents that may perhaps have been made to servants of the Residency on festive occasions, such as marriage and the like. Information on trifling matters going on both at the Residency or at my Palace may have been mutually communicated, but I did not personally hold any intercourse with those servants for this purpose; nor am I personally cognisant of any payments for the same having been made; nor did I authorise any measures by which secrets of the Residency should be conveyed to me."

17. There is yet further evidence that the payments made to the Residency servants were transactions not calculated to bear the light. No entries of such payments were found in the Gaekwar's private accounts. On the other hand there are a number of entries, ranging in time from the 24th November 1873 to the 13th October 1874, showing payments of large sums of money to Salam and Yeshwant Rao. The payments purport to be for goods supplied by those persons, but in point of fact the entries are false, and no such goods were supplied. Now Salam and Yeshwant Rao are the two confidential agents of the Gaekwar, by whose hands all the payments to the Residency servants were made. Here then are funds from which payments could be made for any species of secret service. The Gaekwar's Private Secretary, Damodhur Punt, says that the Residency servants were paid by means of such funds. He is no doubt a most justly suspected witness, but in this instance he is only stating the natural inference to be drawn from the document and circumstances, and he is not contradicted, as he might most easily have been had he spoken falsely.

18. The question now to be asked is whether the other evidence shows any connection, and if any, what connection, between the two cardinal points already established,—on the one hand, the fact that the Gaekwar was in secret communication with some of the Residency servants and paid money to them; and on the other hand, the fact that two of those servants, *viz.*, Raoji and Narsu, were the actual agents in administering poison to Colonel Phayre. There is undoubtedly evidence to this effect, of the most conclusive nature, if only it is to be believed. The great body of it is supplied by Raoji and Narsu themselves, and if they have not woven the most elaborate and marvellous tissue of falsehoods, they make it clear that the proceedings of the Gaekwar, which began by bribing the servants to give secret information and to exercise influence in his favor, ended in direct machinations against Colonel Phayre's person.

19. Is there then any sufficient ground for disbelieving what these witnesses say? It is said that, whoever committed the crime, they are accomplices in it, and that by their own showing they are very wicked men, who have not scrupled to attempt the life of a kind master and to aid in throwing the blame on an innocent fellow-servant. That is quite true, and it must excite the greatest suspicion of their evidence and instil the greatest caution into the minds of those who examine it. At the same time, it must be remembered that direct evidence of nefarious plots is not often procured except from accomplices; and that to reject such evidence merely on account of the source from whence it comes, would be contrary to common sense and to universal practice, and would frequently prevent the discovery of truth. What is necessary in such cases is to apply to the evidence given such tests as are usually employed as the touchstones of truth, and to require the evidence to withstand the tests much more severely and rigidly than if it had come from an unsuspected source.

20. Throughout this case it is constantly to be borne in mind that there are proved facts which require explanation. If we find secret intrigue at one end, and action at the other end, of a series of transactions by the same persons, the presumption is that the two are connected, and

their coincidence ought to be explained in some way. The Government of India then ask the following questions:—

- (a).—Is the explanation given by the witnesses credible in itself?
- (b).—Are the stories they tell consistent with themselves?
- (c).—Are those stories consistent with one another in essentials?
- (d).—When they mention external circumstances with which they can be confronted, are the stories essentially consistent with those circumstances? And are they essentially consistent with evidence given by independent witnesses?
- (e).—Have the witnesses any interest in telling the story they have told?
- (f).—Is any probability shown that they have colluded with one another?
- (g).—Is any probability shown that they have been tutored by some common authority?
- (h).—Was their demeanor under examination such as to induce a belief in their truthfulness, or the contrary?
- (i).—Has their evidence been boldly and confidently met by the party it implicates?

21(a). There is nothing impossible or incredible in the stories told by these two witnesses; nor indeed, when the two cardinal points abovementioned have been once established, is any particular related by them so improbable but that a reasonable amount of evidence may establish it. It may be asked why the Gaekwar, having secured the services of Raoji, should also seek to employ Narsu, and thus bring in an additional accomplice and an additional danger. It is often difficult to say why, in preparing a plot, a particular course has been taken instead of some other course which on review seems a more prudent one. But in this case an answer can readily be given. Raoji lived at the Camp. Narsu was in the city.

The latter, therefore, was a more convenient means of communication with the Palace. But what is more important is, that Narsu was Raoji's superior officer and was usually in attendance in Colonel Phayre's verandah. It is clear, therefore, that Raoji would have run very serious risk of failure or detection if the jemadar Narsu were not first secured.

22(b). The Government of India have failed to discover any material inconsistency in these stories as compared with themselves. A considerable period of time elapsed between the earliest statements of the witnesses, and their latest. They were subjected to a rigid cross-examination by a Counsel of the greatest skill. And yet they have not contradicted their first evidence on any essential point. They are uncertain as to dates, but every person who has to deal with the natives of this country, at all events the uneducated ones, knows how hopeless it is to expect accuracy in such matters from them, and what a complete denial of justice there would be throughout the land if testimony was considered incredible on account of such inaccuracies. Raoji shows that he was vacillating in conduct, but that is not at all inconsistent with what we know of men working themselves up to commit wicked actions. There are also portions of his story which are obscure, as for instance the episode of the bottle, which he says he obtained from the Gaekwar, but which he did not mention in his first statement. But the substance of the story originally told by each witness remains intact. The secret interviews, the persons who were present at them, the receipt of money, the requests made by the Gaekwar to poison Colonel Phayre, the conveyance of the poison from the Gaekwar to Raoji, the deposit of it in Colonel Phayre's sherbet on the 9th November—all these things stand as they did in the first instance. Nor do the Government of India observe that the three Commissioners who have signed separate reports mention any contradiction of these two witnesses by themselves.

23(c). Equally certain is it that in the essential points the stories of the two witnesses are consistent with each other. They differ in particulars; but if they did not, they would justly be suspected of collusion. They differ



as to dates, a point which has been before remarked on; they differ as to the number of visits paid by them to the Gaekwar; they differ in many expressions; and they differ when one purports to state something that happened to, or was done by, the other, and to which the narrator was no immediate party. The Government of India entirely agree with the opinions expressed by the three Commissioners in paragraphs 34 and 42 of their joint report, respecting the discrepancies between Raoji and Narsu, and they think that, so far from showing that the stories are false, those discrepancies serve to show the absence of collusion between the witnesses or of tutoring by the police.

24(d). Again, the Government of India find an amount of consistency between these stories on the one hand and external circumstances and evidence on the other, which would be unlikely if the stories were not true. The witnesses are correct about the character of the building and room to which they say they were taken; the asserted payment of Rupees 500 to Raoji is proved to have actually taken place; the evidence of his companions, Jugga and Karbhai, corresponds with his statements about his visits to the Palace; the evidence of Jugga and the letter produced tallies with the assertion that information was actually sent by Raoji and Narsu to the Palace; the evidence of Jugga and Dalput corresponds with the circumstances mentioned by Raoji as attending the payment of the Rupees 500; the lavish expenditure of Raoji is consistent with his having received large sums of money from some quarter, and indeed was the main circumstance which fastened suspicion upon him and caused his arrest.

25. One piece of external evidence is of so remarkable a character that it deserves rather more detailed mention. On the 9th of November, when all Colonel Phayre's servants were put under examination, Raoji's belt of office was taken away from him and was hung up in a room. On the 15th of December the belt was given to another peon named Budhar. At that time nobody could anticipate the story that Raoji had to tell, or that he had any story to tell at all. He was arrested on the 22nd December, and made statements on the 24th and 25th. It then occurred to Akbar Ali, the head of the Bombay Detective Police, that there might be some trace of some of the powders spoken of by Raoji, and he asked him where he used to keep his packets of powder. Raoji said that he kept them in his belt. Budhar was sent for and came wearing the belt, which he had had in his possession ever since the 15th. Budhar gave the belt to Akbar Ali, and Raoji showed him where he kept the packets. Akbar Ali searched and found a piece of white thread and a packet of paper. He immediately called Mr. Souter, the Police Commissioner, who was in the next room, and Mr. Souter took out the packet of paper and opened it. The paper contained a white powder, which on being analysed was found to be arsenic. Dr. Gray states that in physical characters there are varieties of white arsenic, but that his examination of the powder taken from Raoji's belt enabled him to know that it was of the same character as the arsenic which was found in Colonel Phayre's sherbet.

26. Now up to this time Raoji had not stated anything about a powder remaining in his possession. He had made a statement in which he said that he had received powders on two occasions. On the second occasion he had received a single packet, the whole contents of which he put into Colonel Phayre's sherbet on the 9th November. On the first occasion he had received two packets, which he had mixed, and put into the sherbet on two or three days. When the packet was found in his belt, he recollected that he had not used the whole of one of the powders—a point which he further explained in his examination before the Commission.

27. Now the only explanation which is suggested of this corroborative circumstance is that the whole thing was a plot of the police—a point which the Counsel for the Gaekwar endeavoured to establish. But he could elicit no evidence in his favor, and the hypothesis is one which, if not impossible, is of the highest improbability. Why the police should have thought of producing a remnant of poison in the teeth of Raoji's statement that he had sed the whole; why they should have put into the belt pure arsenic and not

mixed arsenic and diamond dust, which was the material said to have been used; how they came to pitch upon the very quality of arsenic used to poison Colonel Phayre; how they could have secretly got it into the belt which Budhar had continuously possessed from the 15th of December till the moment of discovery; these difficulties and others besides must be explained before the hypothesis of a plot by the police can be made on even plausible grounds.

28(e). Have then these witnesses any interest to tell the story they have told? Nobody has suggested that either of them has any enmity against the Gaekwar, or could gain anything by his downfall. Raoji, it is true, had an interest to tell some story, because he was promised a pardon for himself if he would speak the truth. But his interest was to earn his pardon, and therefore to tell a true story; or if he told a false one, his interest was not to tell one in which a number of other persons were mixed up by whom he could be refuted, nor one implicating a great personage with every means at his command for exposing the falsehood, but one carefully isolated from other persons and from specific circumstances, so as to afford the smallest possible opportunity for contradiction, and one implicating only meaner people who could not so well defend themselves. As for Narsu, he spoke at the peril of his life. He was expressly warned that he would not earn a pardon. His interest was to be silent, or else to tell a story in which he should not be one of the principal actors in the commission of the crime. The conclusion on this point must be that if the witnesses have spoken falsely, they have not spoken in accordance with their own interests, and that one of them has spoken directly against his own interest.

29. It might have been alleged that Colonel Phayre's strong feeling against the Gaekwar was well known to the Residency servants, and therefore that Raoji and Narsu might have supposed that their accusation of the Gaekwar would have been agreeable to Colonel Phayre. But it is to be observed that the accusation was not brought forward while Colonel Phayre was Resident at Baroda, and when the first inquiry was made by him. The evidence of Raoji and Narsu implicating the Gaekwar was not given until Colonel Phayre had been removed from the office of Resident at Baroda, when no advantage could have been expected by them from his favour. This circumstance combines with others to show that the confessions of these men were not the outcome of any plot, but were due to their knowledge that enquiry had at length got upon the right track, and that they had better give themselves up.

30(f). The suggestion of collusion is refuted both by internal and external evidence. If these stories were fictitious, agreed on by Raoji and Narsu, it is hardly conceivable that they would not, especially under the stress of a skilful cross-examination, betray evidence of their origin. They would be found jarring with one another on some essential point, in some irreconcilable manner, or else agreeing in such minute particulars as are always the subject of difference when related independently by different persons. But the inference drawn by the Government of India from their consideration of the points of resemblance and difference between the two stories has been before stated. As regards external evidence, it is stated positively, and nowhere contradicted, that Raoji and Narsu were kept apart from the first arrest of the former on the 22nd December; that neither was ever informed of the statement of the other; and that when Narsu was brought into Raoji's presence on the 23rd December, all that he was informed of Raoji's doings was by means of Raoji's statement that he had told all *up to his neck*.

31(g). But it may be suggested that the stories of Raoji and Narsu are due to their having been tutored by some authority to whom they were subject—in other words, that they were invented by the police. Indeed suggestions of this kind form a very prominent part of the argument delivered on behalf of the Gaekwar. The Gaekwar's Counsel attacked the characters of the police, from Mr. Souter downwards, using even the expression that they had applied torture to the witnesses; and repeatedly sought to deliver himself from the difficulties of the evidence by attributing its origin to the police. The sole



evidence which he was able to elicit in support of these attacks was that of the witness Hemchund, who was called with reference to a minor part of the case, *viz.*, the purchase of diamonds. He was one of the witnesses who were not kept under arrest, and by his evidence before the Commissioners he contradicted his original statement made to the police. To justify his contradiction, he said that his original statement was made under compulsion by Gujanund Vithul, one of the police officers, who even forced him to make a false entry in his books. Of this witness Hemchund, the three Commissioners who signed the joint report say, that he contradicted himself violently, and that no reliance can be placed on his evidence generally. When before the Commissioners, he denied his own signature, and falsely pretended not to understand any Hindustani, or even to know that such a language existed. The three Commissioners disbelieve that the compulsion he speaks of was put upon him. So do the Government of India. It is sufficient here to say that his original statement was not taken down by Gujanund Vithul, but by Mr. Souter, and that two days afterwards it was signed by Hemchund in the presence of Sir Lewis Pelly, and that he made no remonstrance to either of those gentlemen, though he must have known that at least Sir Lewis Pelly would afford him as complete and instant protection from Gujanund Vithul as the Commissioners themselves would. This circumstance, coupled with the patent mendacity of the witness and his eagerness to disconnect himself from every portion of the case, compel the Government of India to say that his evidence must be wholly set aside.

32. But when Hemchund is set aside, there remains no evidence at all to support the suggestion that the police have invented any part of the story told by Raoji and Narsu, or drilled the witnesses. Why they should think of inventing such a story is not easy to understand, for they certainly could not suppose that by doing so they were doing any welcome service to the Government of India. Mr. Souter, Akbar Ali, Abdool Ali, and Gujanund Vithul are all men distinguished in the service of the Bombay Government. Mr. Ballantine could elicit nothing to their discredit in cross-examination, though in the case of Gujanund Vithul he was instructed to make the attempt. All were acting under the instructions of Sir Lewis Pelly, who would have taken instant and severe notice of any species of unfairness. From the time of his arrest Narsu was not under the custody of the police, but under a military guard. There is no evidence whatever to show that the police had such access to them as would have rendered it possible that an elaborate plot could have been successfully concocted and the witnesses instructed for their performance before the Commission. Moreover, the same internal evidence which bears against the theory of collusion between Raoji and Narsu, bears equally against the theory of invention by the police. Under these circumstances, the Government of India think it a matter of moral certainty that the stories told by Raoji and Narsu were not the inventions of the police. They wish to express their concurrence in the remarks which fell from the Advocate-General of Bombay on this subject. And they add that the great reliance placed by Mr. Ballantine on the resource of attacking the police, unsupported as his attacks are by any evidence, is to their minds a strong proof of the weakness of the case he had to support.

33. As regards the demeanor of these two men under examination, the Government of India find no suggestion even from the Gaekwar's Counsel that it told against them, while the three Commissioners who have signed the joint report have put it on record that Narsu's manner impressed them favorably. He certainly was urged most powerfully by Sir Diukur Rao, a gentleman of his own religion and one likely to have great influence with him; and the result of that urgency, so far as it can be gathered from writing, was such as to give a strong impression of the man's sincerity. The Government of India subjoin here what passed, taking the account from the short-hand writer's notes, not because they are at variance with the official notes, but because the questions are given as well as the answers, and so it is shown in a more

striking way how the witness was urged and how he insisted that there was but one truth, and that was the truth which he had told :—

“By Sir Dinkur Rao—You are a servant of thirty-four years. Have you been in the habit of visiting the Maharaja from the time of the previous Commission or before?—From the time of the previous Commission I visited the Maharaja, but not previously. I never used to go before Khunderao except in Kutcherry with the Sahib.

“Have you never gone to the Maharaja Khunderao's to ask for Dusserah presents?—Some minor Sirdars used to give presents, but it was not customary for the Durbar to give presents. The Dewan Rao Sahib used to give directly, but there was no such custom in the Durbar.

“When the Maharaja instigated you to poison, this was a very bad thing. Did you make arrangements for the support of your family?—I did nothing. He said merely by words what was said through Raoji.

“The Advocate-General objected to the interpretation. He said that what the witness said was: ‘He gave me a verbal assurance.’

“Mr. Melvill—What the witness really said was, ‘He relied upon what the Maharaja said.’

“Sir Dinkur Rao—It is a very serious thing to poison one. Would anybody do such a matter in the presence of ten or twelve persons?—There were not ten persons. There were two of his servants and two of ours.

“Was the quantity of poison used small or large, and was it administered three times?—In my life I have not given any poison. A packet was given to me, and I was told to give it to Raoji, and I gave it to him. The arrangements as to how much to use and not lay with Raoji.

“What servants said that accusations should be made against Faizu?—No one said so. They mentioned his name in the statements, and therefore I also caused it to be written.

“Who mentioned his name?—Abdoola, Pedro, and the Hamals—five or six persons altogether.

“At the first meeting the Maharaja called you a rogue. How then did he come to trust you in such a serious matter?—Raoji, Salim, and Yeshwunt. Rao took me and they assured the Maharaja.

“Are you a Hindoo?—Yes.

“What is your caste?—A Telingan Camatee.

“Are you afraid of the Police?—Why? Why should there be fear for speaking the truth?

“Do you yourself believe that you are guilty?—It is my bad luck; I also am concerned.

“If you were granted a pardon, would you in the presence of God tell the truth?—It is not because I may get a pardon that I tell the truth. Whether or not the Sirkar gives me a pardon, they are my parents.

“Mr. Melvill—That is not a correct interpretation. What the witness said was: ‘If I were offered a pardon, I would speak the truth. I am speaking the truth now.’

“(Question repeated.)

“Witness—I know nothing more than this, which is true.

“The President—Sir Dinkur Rao's question, as I understand it, was, whether if the witness were offered a pardon he would tell a more truthful statement than he is now giving. Repeat that question.

“(Question repeated by Interpreter.)

“Witness—What was truth I have said. Beside that there is no other truth. The Sirkar may kill me if they like.

"By Sir Dinkur Rao—You have served a person thirty-four years, against whom you have done basely. Now, as you, if you were in the presence of God, state the truth. Do not be afraid. Whatever is in your mind state it without fear in the presence of God?—I have stated without fear what I had to say.

"The President (to Interpreter)—Put the question in this way: 'In the presence of God will you tell the truth?'

"(Question repeated by Interpreter.)

"Witness—In the presence of God I have stated what was the truth. I have not stated an untruth. I have stated the truth.

"Witness then retired."

34 (i.) It remains to ask how the evidence of these men has been met on the part of the Gaekwar. The answer is that his advisers preferred to rely on discrepancies between witnesses, on their infirmities of memory, on improbabilities, and on attacks upon the agents of the Government, instead of bringing forward the persons who, if the charges against the Gaekwar were false, could at once disprove them by direct evidence. According to the stories told by Raoji and Narsu, as well as by the ayah Amina, and the several other witnesses who prove the secret interviews, there were two men, Salam and Yeshwant Rao, who intervened at every turn of the transactions. They were the confidential agents of the Gaekwar. It has been above shown (in paragraph 17) that they received large sums of secret service money. When arrested, these men were placed under a military guard, and were not in the hands of the police. It was stated by the Advocate-General of Bombay openly and without contradiction "that they have had no communication whatever with the police, and that since the arrest of His Highness his solicitors have been allowed the most unrestricted private communication with them." They never volunteered any information as other accomplices did, and it was their strongest interest to assert the innocence of the Gaekwar. The legal advisers of the Government of India had no reason to believe that the interests of truth, as the evidence before them showed it to be, would be any way promoted by the examination of these men. But the Gaekwar was in a very different position. He knows of his own knowledge, though others can only infer from evidence, what the truth is: and he knows that it is known to Salam and Yeshwant Rao. According to his case the truth is that there was no plot in the palace against Colonel Phayre, and that Salam and Yeshwant Rao knew the fact as well as himself. Why then were not these men called upon to say what was at once the righteous thing and the thing most advantageous to themselves and to the master they served? The reasons assigned by his Counsel are that "He (the Gaekwar) cannot tell, and his advisers are unable to suggest with any certainty, whether these men are or are not accomplices with Damodhur Punt," and "that they would have come out of a custody from which nothing could be safe." If the second of these reasons is meant to be an addition to the numerous suggestions of conspiracy by the Police, it is founded on an error in fact. Yet it can hardly have been meant to suggest that the military also are parties to a plot against the Gaekwar. But the reasons may be left to speak for themselves. The Government of India have no hesitation in saying that the refusal on the Gaekwar's part to call upon Salam and Yeshwant Rao to come forward to speak the honest truth, and to confound Raoji, Narsu and the others, lends a strong probability to the truthfulness of the charges against him.

35. It is next to be seen what support the evidence of Raoji and Narsu receives from independent witnesses, so far as it relates to the actual instigation to poison. It must be remembered that so far it relates to interviews with the Gaekwar and the receipt of money from him, it has received ample support of this kind.



36. It receives some material support from the ayah Amina, an ignorant and timid witness, but one against whose truthfulness no imputation can be maintained. At her last interview with the Gaekwar, which was probably during the latter part of October, the subject of machinations against the person of Colonel Phayre was broached. It does not seem that poison was mentioned, and it is not clear, nor perhaps is it very material, whether or no the witness thought that poison was hinted at under the expression of a "charm" or of "something being given." What remains certain is that some physical operation on Colonel Phayre for the purpose of producing either a physical or a mental effect was spoken of, that Amina was thoroughly frightened, that she warned the Gaekwar not to make attempts against Colonel Phayre, for that if he did so he would be ruined, and that she went away and never returned again.

37. Amina is corroborated by her husband Sheikh Abdulla, who says that she told him on the following morning that the Gaekwar had enquired if anything could be given to those people to bring about a union between the hearts of himself and the Saheb, and that she had warned him against giving the Saheb anything to eat. By the expression "the Saheb" Colonel Phayre is meant.

38. Nor must the evidence of Damodhur Punt, the Gaekwar's Private Secretary, be forgotten. The position of this witness is very unsatisfactory, for he is by his own account a guilty accomplice, and he spoke under promise of pardon and, as he says, because he was weary of confinement. The three Commissioners who have signed the joint report have accordingly dealt cautiously with his evidence, which however they think to be probable in its essential points. The Government of India think it right to give the utmost weight to the drawbacks from this evidence, and not to use it except when it receives some support from other evidence. But after allowing full scope to doubts, they find a substantial correspondence between the story told by Damodhur Punt and those told by Raoji and Narsu, of which he was in ignorance; and in addition, there are two specific instances in which Damodhur Punt's story is corroborated by trustworthy extrinsic evidence.

39. First, Exhibit Z is an undoubtedly genuine document, and that shows that, as early as the 4th October 1874, arsenic was wanted by Damodhur Punt for some purpose, and that he alleged it to be required by the Gaekwar. The arsenic was not given out, because a written order could not be, or at all events was not, obtained from the Gaekwar for the purpose. It is impossible to suppose that an allegation appearing on this document upon the 4th October was any part of a plot against the Gaekwar. Exhibit Z requires some explanation, and none has been given except that of Damodhur Punt, *viz.*, that the Gaekwar did actually order him to get some arsenic.

40. Secondly, Nanaji Vithal, the keeper of the jewels, a witness not implicated in the plot against Colonel Phayre, shows that, some little time before the 20th October, diamonds were wanted, not for any ordinary purpose, but, as was stated, for medicinal purposes; "to be made ashes," as he says, "for medicine." He never knew of such a thing before. That the Palace accounts have been tampered with and falsified so as to conceal some transactions with diamonds about this time, is proved by Exhibit T1, as explained by the evidence of the Brahmin Rameshwar Moraji, and of Nanaji Vithal and his subordinate Atmaram. Again these phenomena require some explanation, and none is given except that of Damodhur Punt, *viz.*, that the Gaekwar did want some diamonds for the purpose of making a poisonous powder.

41. With regard to the points to which a large part of the evidence of Damodhur Punt has been directed, *viz.*, the proof of the purchase of arsenic and diamonds in particular quarters, the three Commissioners who have signed the joint report think that the purchase of the former is probable and that of the latter is proved. The Government of India are unable to attach much

importance to these points. It has never occurred to them that the Gaekwar could have had any difficulty in procuring as much arsenic and as many diamonds as he wished, nor do they suppose that their legal advisers would have spent any pains in procuring evidence on such points, only that Damodhur Punt volunteered information about them as part of the story he had to tell. But the evidence of Damodhur Punt was no part of the evidence laid before the Government of India on which they directed this enquiry, and which they were advised would, if unshaken, warrant conclusions against the Gaekwar.

42. The Government of India think it right now to notice in detail the reasons given by the three Commissioners who have signed separate reports, for thinking that the evidence given by the witnesses on the charge of poisoning is so far defective that it cannot be taken as proving the offence imputed to the Gaekwar.

43. The Maharaja Sindia says that out of a large number of persons connected with the case, only three witnesses, Raoji, Narsu, and Damodhur Punt, have given their evidence in reference to the above charge, and that all these widely differ in their statements. His Highness has, however, overlooked the evidence of Amina, which, as above shown, has an important bearing on this charge. As to the witnesses all differing widely in their statements, the Government of India hardly know what differences between Raoji and Narsu on the one hand, and Damodhur Punt on the other, are referred to. The differences between Raoji and Narsu do not, as above stated, touch the essential points of their story. The circumstance that there are only four witnesses, or even only three, to give direct evidence upon a particular charge, does not make the evidence incredible or even weak. It must stand the test of a rigid examination, and if it does, it is not to be rejected because the witnesses are not numerous.

44. The Maharaja then says that the evidence of Pedro and Abdulla (clearly meaning Abdulla the 17th witness) is in favor of the accused. Now the Government of India cannot see how the evidence of Abdulla bears upon the point at all. As for Pedro, he was inculpated by Raoji, and he denies all complicity in the plot. He therefore contradicts Raoji upon the one point of his own complicity, and with which of them the truth lies cannot easily be told. He says nothing to implicate the Gaekwar in the attempt to poison, but in no other sense is his evidence in favor of the Gaekwar. On the contrary, he confirms Raoji's evidence so far as it relates to intercourse between the Gaekwar and the Residency servants. He admits that he received money from the Gaekwar, not on the occasion of any festivity, nor for any apparent reason, unless it was an inducement to him to visit the Gaekwar, which he was urged to do by Salam but says that he refused to do.

45. Again, the Maharaja says that the non-production of Salam, Yeshwant Rao, Khanvelkar, Gujaba, Nurudin Borah, and the Hakim is in favor of the accused. There is a distinction to be taken between these persons. Nurudin Borah is a vendor of drugs, and Damodhur Punt alleges that the arsenic employed to poison Colonel Phayre, was procured from him. Nothing is alleged against Nurudin Borah's innocence in the matter. The only point to which he could have spoken is the purchase or non-purchase of arsenic by Damodhur Punt. Now it has been above stated that this matter of the purchase of arsenic was a portion, but a very immaterial portion, of Damodhur Punt's statement. That statement was given in its integrity, and for what it was worth. His assertion that he purchased arsenic of Nurudin Borah is not sustained by any other evidence. Nurudin Borah should have been called upon to prove it if that had been material, and as he was not called, the Gaekwar is entitled to the benefit of the observation that the purchase has not been proved. Beyond that the non-production of Nurudin Borah does not affect the case.

46. The case is very different with respect to the other witnesses. It has been already shown how it stands with respect to Salam and Yeshwant Rao;



that the inference from their non-appearance is that the Gaekwar, who knew exactly what they could truthfully say, was afraid of it. The same observations, though in a far minor degree, are applicable to Khanvelkar, Gujaba and the Hakim. These witnesses could only speak to the minor question of the procurement of the materials for poison. They were in intimate connection with the Gaekwar, and are all represented by Damodhur Punt as accomplices in the plot against Colonel Phayre. If he has spoken untruly of them, they might have most effectually contradicted him, and the Gaekwar knew whether or no they could do so.

47. Then the Maharaja Sindia feels a difficulty because the poison was given in small quantities, and the transactions extended over a long time. The first observation that occurs upon this is that the difficulty about the quantities applies also to any other theory which may be framed to account for the undoubted fact of the poisoning: for it is pretty clear that small doses must have been administered to Colonel Phayre before the large dose of the 9th of November. But the mode of operation is explained naturally enough by Raoji's fear of producing a sudden effect, which he thought would lead to his detection. The length of time over which the whole transactions extended is not very accurately ascertainable, because the beginning is not fixed; but, allowing the greatest latitude consistent with the evidence, the time extends over some six or seven weeks, and that does not seem a long time for a plan requiring much contrivance, the watching of opportunities, and an allowance for the failure of agents, such as Raoji states to have occurred twice with himself.

48. Then it is observed that there is no sufficient proof of the purchase of diamonds, arsenic, or copper, and no paper whatsoever signed by the Gaekwar, involving him in the matter. But it has been already shown, in paragraphs 41 and 45, how unnecessary it is to prove any such purchase. And as for papers signed by the Gaekwar, it is not likely that any such papers should be forthcoming in such a case. Certainly the Government of India did not expect to find any.

49. The objections to the evidence which are felt by the Maharaja of Jeypoor and Sir Dinkur Rao, do not differ in principle from those felt by the Maharaja Sindia, and most of them have been already observed on, but a few additional details are given, in which it is thought that some important objections to the evidence are to be found.

50. The Maharaja of Jeypoor thinks it important that Raoji should have stated that the Gaekwar promised him and Narsu a lakh of rupees each, while Narsu only mentions indefinite promises of reward. Now, this is exactly one of those discrepancies which appear to the Government of India to preclude the supposition that the stories of these two witnesses are the result of collusion. The essential point is that a reward was promised. The nature of the reward may easily have been stated differently to, or have been understood differently by, each, especially as it is stated that both Salam and Yeshwant Rao took part in the conversation. But supposing the story to have been agreed upon between the two, or to have been invented by some third person and taught to the witnesses, it is very difficult to conceive that so obvious and simple a point as the promise of a lakh of rupees would not be dwelt upon, or that one so easy to remember would not have been faithfully reproduced when they came to deliver their evidence.

51. The Maharaja of Jeypoor points out truly that the yads produced out of the records of the private office under Damodhur Punt, do not show any specific sums of money having been paid for diamonds, or for poison of any kind. He proceeds as follows: "The sums mentioned in the yads were for giving feasts to Brahmans, and other charitable and useful purposes. There is sufficient evidence also to prove that these sums were actually spent

on such purposes." The Government of India hardly know on what view of the evidence respecting the Exhibit T1, the general bearing of which has been stated above, this opinion of the Maharaja is based. To their apprehension, it is proved that a number of fictitious entries were made in the Gaekwar's accounts, in order to cover payments the nature of which it was desired to conceal. And it so happens that the particular payment now specified, *viz.*, the payment for a feast to Brahmins mentioned in Exhibit T1, is the one whose false character is shown by the most unassailable evidence. For the Brahmin himself who is named in the entry as the recipient of Rupees 3,632-13-3 in December 1874, was called and proved that no such money was ever paid to him. He pointed out the difference between an entry of money really paid (Exhibit Y1) and the false entry T1. And it so happens that the sum mentioned in T1 is the exact equivalent of the sums mentioned in Exhibits R1 and S1, and paid to Nanaji Vithal, the Superintendent of the Jewel Department.\* It was evidently thought desirable to get rid of these sums by some false statement in the accounts. This entry then, which seems satisfactory to the Maharaja of Jeypoor, seems, on the contrary, to the Government of India, to be one confirmation of the evidence of Damodhur Punt, as is stated above in paragraph 38.

\* The three Commissioners who have signed the joint report have fallen into an arithmetical error on this point.

52. Again, the Maharaja of Jeypoor says that copper is mentioned as having been one of the poisons administered to Colonel Phayre, and that it was not detected by the chemical analysis. But that is not according to the evidence. All that appears on that subject is that Bhow Poonekar, speaking from mere hearsay, told Colonel Phayre that copper was administered.

53. The Government of India do not understand on what grounds the Maharaja of Jeypoor should say that there were no means of ascertaining whether Salam and Yeshwant Rao made any statements on the subject before the Bombay Police. If either the Gaekwar's Counsel or the Commissioners themselves desired to ask any question on this subject, they certainly would have been answered both by the Police Officers and by the men themselves.

54. The only points added by Sir Dinkur Rao are some discrepancies with respect to dates, on which some general observations have before been made, and some comparisons between the evidence of Raoji and that of Damodhur Punt, in which, though the witnesses speak to different occurrences, and though it may be said that the two narratives when put together do not make up a complete whole, but leave something untold, the Government of India fail to see any contradiction at all.

55. The result then is that, notwithstanding the doubts entertained by the Maharaja Sindia and Sir Dinkur Rao, and the more positive opinion of the Maharaja of Jeypoor, the examination of the evidence by the Government of India leads them to concur with the three Commissioners who signed the joint Report, that it bears on its face a trustworthy character, and contains no such contradictions or obscurities as would justify them in disbelieving the witnesses on their own showing. Counter-evidence, it has been already stated, there is none; the Gaekwar's advisers have refrained from calling upon his agents to attest his innocence. His Counsel, at the close of his argument, boldly maintained that it was not for him to make out a case on behalf of the Gaekwar. The Government of India think differently. One of the main objects of the enquiry was to afford the Gaekwar an opportunity of freeing himself from the grave suspicion which attached to him. The Government of India think that it was for the Gaekwar's advisers to make out a case, if they could honestly do it, to rebut the strong evidence brought against him, and cannot see any ground for their refusal to do it, except their inability. Neither is there any counter-theory to explain the evidence before the Commission. It is true that the Gaekwar's Counsel rather suggested than argued that Damodhur Punt or Bhow Poonekar might be the authors of the



attempt to poison. But there is not a particle of evidence to support either suggestion, and both are justly dismissed in very brief terms by the three Commissioners who have signed the joint Report.

56. It is therefore with great regret that the Government of India are compelled to express their decided opinion that all the offences imputed to the Gaekwar previously to the enquiry have been sustained upon the enquiry, and that he did instigate Raoji and Narsu to administer poison to Colonel Phayre.

By Order of the Governor-General of India in Council,

SIMLA;  
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT,  
POLITICAL.  
The 21st April 1875.

(Sd.) C. U. AITCHISON,  
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

WHEREAS by a Commission issued by order of the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council under the hand of C. U. Aitchison, Secretary to the Government of India, notified in the *Gazette of India*, dated the 15th of February 1875, and addressed to

The Honourable Sir Richard Couch, Knight Bachelor, and Chief Justice of Her Majesty's High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal;

His Highness Mookhtar-ool-Moolk, Azeem-ool-Iktidar, Ruffi-ool-shan, Wala Shikoh, Mohtashin-i-Dowran, Oomdut-ool-Oomrah, Maharaja Dheeraj, Alijah Maharaja Jeeajee Rao Sindiah Bahadoor, Shreenath, Munsoor-i-Zaman, Fidvee-i-Huzrut Malikah-i-Mooazuma, Rafi-ood-Durjeh-i-Inglistan, Maharaja of Gwalior, Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India;

His Highness Siramad-i-Rajaha-i-Hindoostan, Raj Rajendra Sree Maharaja Dheeraj Sewaee Ram Sing Bahadoor, Maharaja of Jeypoor, Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India;

Colonel Sir Richard John Meade, Knight Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, and Chief Commissioner of Mysore and Coorg;

Raja Sir Dinkur Rao, Knight Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India; and

Philip Sandys Melvill, Esquire, of the Bengal Civil Service, and a Commissioner in the Punjab;

reciting that an attempt had been made at Baroda to poison Colonel B. Phayre, C.B., the late British Resident at the Court of His Highness Mulhar Rao Gaekwar, and that the following offences were imputed against the said Mulhar Rao Gaekwar, that is to say:—

I.—That the said Mulhar Rao Gaekwar did by his agents and in person hold secret communications for improper purposes with some of the servants employed by Colonel Phayre, the Resident at Baroda, or attached to the Residency.

II.—That the said Mulhar Rao Gaekwar gave bribes to some of those servants, or caused such bribes to be given.

III.—That his purposes in holding such communications and giving such bribes were to use the said servants as spies upon Colonel Phayre, and thereby improperly to obtain information of secrets, and to cause injury to Colonel Phayre, or to remove him by means of poison.

IV.—That in fact an attempt to poison Colonel Phayre was made by persons instigated thereto by the said Mulhar Rao Gaekwar.

And that the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council had temporarily assumed the administration of the Baroda State for the purpose of instituting a public enquiry into the truth of the said imputations, and of affording His

Highness Mulhar Rao Gaekwar an opportunity of freeing himself from the grave suspicion which attached to him.

Therefore the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council appointed the said Sir Richard Couch, the said Maharaja of Gwalior, the said Maharaja of Jeypoor, the said Sir Richard John Meade, the said Sir Dinkur Rao, and the said Philip Sandys Melvill, Esquire, to be Commissioners for the purpose of enquiring into the truth of the said imputations and of reporting to the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council how far the same were true to the best of their judgment and belief.

And the said Viceroy and Governor-General in Council appointed the said Sir Richard Couch to be President of the Commission, with full power to appoint times and places of meeting, to adjourn meetings, to adjust and arrange the method of procedure, to settle the course which the enquiry shall take, to call for and to receive or reject evidence, documentary or otherwise, to hear such persons as he should think fit on behalf either of the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council, or of His Highness Mulhar Rao Gaekwar, and generally to guide the whole course of the proceedings of the Commission as from time to time should appear to him to be proper for the purpose thereof.

And after reciting that certain other matters of importance pending between the British Government and His Highness Mulhar Rao Gaekwar were enquired into and reported upon by a Commission appointed by the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council by orders dated 23rd October 1873; and that the enquiry which the said Commissioners were appointed to make was not connected with such matters. For the better understanding of their functions, the said Viceroy and Governor-General in Council thereby declared his desire that they should not extend their enquiry to other matters than the offences imputed to His Highness Mulhar Rao Gaekwar as aforesaid, and that they should not permit any such other matters to be submitted to them for consideration or enquiry.

And the said Viceroy and Governor-General in Council desired that in the event of any of their number being prevented by sickness or other cause from taking his place as Commissioner, or from remaining as Commissioner till the conclusion of their enquiry, the other Commissioners should nevertheless conduct and complete their enquiry in the same way as if the number of Commissioners present or remaining were the whole number appointed thereby.

And the said Viceroy and Governor-General in Council thereby appointed John Jardine, Esquire, of the Bombay Civil Service, to be their Secretary.

And whereas the said Commissioners so appointed as aforesaid met together in the Military Cantonment at Baroda, and commenced the said enquiry on Tuesday, the 23rd day of February 1875. And the said Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council appeared before them by Counsel.

And His Highness Mulhar Rao Gaekwar also appeared by Counsel and was personally present.

And the said Commissioners met from time to time by adjournment at the place aforesaid, and received the evidence, oral and documentary, produced on behalf of the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council, and on behalf of His Highness Mulhar Rao Gaekwar, and a statement in writing of the said Mulhar Rao Gaekwar, and heard Counsel respectively on behalf of the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council and His Highness Mulhar Rao Gaekwar.

Now we the undersigned three of the Commissioners appointed as aforesaid do make the following report upon the matters so as aforesaid directed to be enquired into :—

1. It is desirable first to record the dates on which some of the important events connected with this enquiry occurred. They are as follows :—

Colonel Phayre assumed his office as Resident of Baroda on the 18th of March 1873.



The Commission of Enquiry into the complaints of mal-administration on the part of the Gaekwar's Government, brought by the Resident, Colonel Phayre, sat from the beginning of November to the 24th of December 1873.

The Gaekwar Mulhar Rao went to Nausari to celebrate his marriage with Lakshmi Bai accompanied by Colonel Phayre on the 2nd of April 1874, and returned on the 16th of May 1874. The marriage occurred on the 7th of that month.

Lakshmi Bai was delivered of a son on the 16th of October 1874.

The date of the kharita addressed by the Gaekwar to the Viceroy requesting the removal of Colonel Phayre from Baroda is the 2nd of November 1874.

The date of the kharita of the Viceroy announcing the removal of Colonel Phayre from the post of Resident at Baroda, and the appointment of Colonel Sir Lewis Pelly, K.C.S.I., is the 25th of November 1874.

2. The evidence on the record proves in our opinion that an attempt was made on the 9th of November 1874 to poison Colonel Phayre by administering common white arsenic and diamond dust in the glass of sherbet made of pummelo juice which he was in the habit of drinking on his return from his early morning walk. Colonel Phayre returned home at five minutes to seven on that morning, and was met by Raoji, the havildar of his peons, who made a salaam to him. Colonel Phayre then entered the room he used as an office and dressing room in a small building which adjoins the main block of the Residency. Having entered that room he found the glass of sherbet placed as usual on the wash-hand-stand, and he took two or three sips, replacing the glass on the wash-hand-stand. He then sat down to write, and in twenty minutes or half an hour felt a sudden sensation of nausea. Thinking that the sherbet disagreed with him, and fearing, as he said, that he might be tempted to drink more of it, he flung the contents of the tumbler into the verandah outside the office room. The greater portion of the contents fell in the verandah, but a portion also reached the ground outside the verandah. When replacing the tumbler on the wash-hand-stand, Colonel Phayre's attention was attracted by the colour of a sediment which had remained in the tumbler, and of which a portion was still trickling down the side. He describes the sediment as being of a dark colour, and he adds that on holding up the tumbler and looking at it the thought occurred to his mind that he had been poisoned. This was at about 7-30 A.M. Colonel Phayre at once wrote a note to Dr. Seward, the Residency Surgeon, asking him to come over, and Dr. Seward arrived in half or three-quarters of an hour, or about 8 o'clock. Colonel Phayre handed over to Dr. Seward the tumbler containing the remains of the sherbet, amounting, according to Colonel Phayre's account, to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  or 2 tea-spoonsful, and according to Dr. Seward to less than a dessert spoonful. Dr. Seward observed "a little powdery film arise" in the sediment as he shook the tumbler and held it up to the light; and on adding a little water "observed the play of colour on the glistening part of the sediment." Colonel Phayre described the symptoms he experienced to Dr. Seward, who took the tumbler and its contents to his own house for the purpose of ascertaining what the contents were. Colonel Phayre has deposed that no person had access to the tumbler from the time he sipped the sherbet till the time that he made it over to Dr. Seward.

\* Exhibit F.

The symptoms experienced by Colonel Phayre are described in a letter\* written by him to Dr. Seward at

11 A.M. on the same day, of which an extract here follows:—

"Although I only took two or three sips of the pummalo juice which the tumbler contained, I felt within about half an hour, as I described to you, "a most unusual sickness of stomach, accompanied by dizziness of the head "and of sight, producing confusion of thought, also a most unpleasant metallic "taste in the mouth, with slight salivation such as I have never experienced "till within the last few days, and which I attributed partly to a slight attack

"of fever which had, however, quite gone off, and partly to an idea that the "pummalos from which the juice daily placed on my table had been extracted "were not fresh ones."

The metallic taste referred to has been described by Colonel Phayre as being a "coppery" taste; and he states that it commenced about three-quarter of an hour after sipping the sherbet, which he says was quite clear in the upper part of the tumbler and had no unpleasant taste.

3. Dr. Seward \* explains the processes he used for ascertaining the contents of the sediment in the tumbler. He took

\* No. 15.

about one-third of the sediment, equal to from one to two grains in weight, and of a faint fawn or pale grey colour; and mixing a little charcoal with it, put it into a test tube, which he heated over a spirit lamp, with the result of producing a metallic ring on the tube. Again heating the tube, he saw above and below the metallic ring a crystalline deposit which was found under the microscope to consist of octohedral crystals. The metallic ring and the octohedral crystals are stated by this witness to indicate almost entirely the existence of arsenic, and he adds that no other mineral poison would yield the same appearance. The rising of the film in the sediment is also an indication of the same poison.

The remainder of the sediment which Dr. Seward had not experimented upon he sent on the morning of the 10th of November to Dr. Gray, the Chemical Analyser to Government at Bombay, having reduced it to the condition of powder by the application of a blotting-paper filter and heat.

4. Some days after having made the test of reduction by charcoal as above related, Dr. Seward made a further experiment which he thus describes, with the substance that remained in his test tube. He removed the mixture from the tube and threw it upon the surface of some water. Allowing the heavier particles to sink to the bottom, he rapidly poured off that which was floating. After repeating this process several times, he collected the sediment, and placed it on some glass slides, which he produced before the Commission. He put the slides under a microscope, and perceived that the sediment consisted mainly of lustrous crystalline fragments. Passing a clean glass slide over one of the slides covered with the sediment, he found that its surface was scratched. He repeated this experiment before the Commission, the clean slide being readily scratched on being rubbed against the charged slide. Dr. Seward explains that he did not test for copper, but only for arsenic, and that the poisonous portion of the sediment was the arsenic and not the diamond dust. He did not weigh the sediment that he obtained in the tumbler.

5. Before going on to describe the result of Dr. Gray's analysis of the powder sent to him by Dr. Seward on the 10th of November, it is necessary to refer to two other packets that were also sent to Dr. Gray for analysis. These are, first, a packet containing scrapings of the chunam floor of the

† Exhibit I.

verandah into which Colonel Phayre threw the sherbet. Colonel Phayre's evidence and his letter to Dr. Gray show that in consequence of a suggestion thrown out by Dr. Gray to Dr. Seward, and communicated by Dr. Seward to Colonel Phayre, the latter witness, on the morning of the 15th of November, caused one of his peons, in his presence, to scrape as much deposit as could be found on the chunam floor of the verandah where the contents of the tumbler fell. These scrapings were made up by Colonel Phayre himself with a packet, which was forwarded

to Dr. Gray on the 16th of November under due precautions. The second packet was found† in Raoji's belt on the 25th of December 1874 in the presence of the Commissioner of Police, Mr. Souter, by whom it was taken to Bombay and delivered to Dr. Gray on the 30th idem.

6. The following is an abstract of the evidence of Dr. Gray, Chemical Analyser to Government at Bombay. He received the three packets above

† Evidence of Akbar Ali, No. 38, and Mr. Souter, No. 54.

referred to in such a condition and in such a way as to exclude any idea of their having been tampered with *en route*.

The first packet forwarded to him by Dr. Seward contained  $1\frac{1}{2}$  grains of powder of a greyish colour, composed partially of glittering particles. He applied the test by sublimation to a small portion of the powder, the result by microscopical examination being the existence of eight-sided crystals. He made a solution of the crystals by boiling them in water. Taking part of the solution, he added to it ammonio-nitrate of silver, and it produced a pale yellow precipitate.

To another part of the solution he added ammonio-sulphate of copper, and the result was a pale green precipitate.

In the remainder of the solution he put muriatic acid, boiled the solution, and passed sulphuretted hydrogen gas through it, the result being a bright yellow precipitate.

He then added ammonia to the three precipitates, reserving, however, a portion of the third precipitate. They all dissolved.

The reserved portion of the third precipitate he boiled with strong muriatic acid, and it did not dissolve.

All these tests satisfied Dr. Gray that the crystals he had produced by the process of sublimation were crystals of white arsenic.

He made further experiments with the powder he received from Dr. Seward. He boiled a small portion of it with water and muriatic acid, and threw two pieces of clean copper-foil into the boiling liquid, which continued to boil. In a few seconds the copper-foil became covered with a grey metallic deposit. One of the pieces of copper-foil he dried and heated in a test tube, on the side of which a white sublimate formed consisting of eight-sided crystals. To these crystals he applied the same kind of tests as those already described and with the same results.

7. Dr. Gray also tried the test by reduction with charcoal on a portion of the powder received from Dr. Seward. He produced before the Commission the test tube with the metallic ring, which he states is one of the signs of the presence of arsenic. He did not reduce the ring to white arsenic by heating.

8. In regard to the glittering particles contained in the powder received from Dr. Seward, Dr. Gray deposes that they were not in any way affected by the experiments above described. He examined them under a microscope, and at first thought they might be powdered glass or quartz; but on looking at them on the following day (the 12th of November) on the piece of blotting-paper, he was led by simple inspection to think that they were diamonds on account of their brilliancy. He tried to dissolve them in all the ordinary acids, and with an alkali, but the particles were not soluble; and he came to the conclusion that they were diamond dust as the result of his independent enquiries, he not having at that time (the 13th of November) received any intimation that the powder might contain diamond dust.

9. The second packet forwarded by Colonel Phayre with Exhibit I was received by Dr. Gray on the 17th of November. It contained earthy matter, in weight 17 grains, which on examination by the same tests as those applied to the contents of the first packet, proved to be arsenic, sand, and diamond dust. One grain of arsenic was found by Dr. Gray in the packet forwarded by Dr. Seward, and  $1\frac{1}{4}$  grain in that forwarded by Colonel Phayre, total  $2\frac{1}{4}$  grains. Under circumstances favourable for its action  $2\frac{1}{2}$  grains are, Dr. Gray says, a fatal dose for an adult, and the effect of arsenic shows itself, in the majority of cases, in from half an hour to an hour. Diamond dust according to the best authorities has no injurious effect on the human body.

Dr. Gray considers the rising of the film in the sediment, as described by Dr. Seward, to be a likely result of the presence of arsenic in the tumbler.



10. The third packet delivered by Mr. Souter on the 30th of December 1874, Dr. Gray found to contain 7 grains of white arsenic of the same description and physical character as that found in the other two. He judged this from ocular inspection with a microscope.

11. The alleged existence of a metallic taste in the mouth of persons suffering from arsenical poisoning is a fact which has once come under Dr. Gray's personal experience, and one that is constantly referred to in cases that are sent up to him in his capacity of Chemical Analyser. He himself has taken arsenic for the purpose of ascertaining whether it has any taste, but has found it to be tasteless.

Dr. Gray directed his attention to the discovery of copper in the powders, but found no trace of it.

12. The usual symptoms of poisoning by arsenic are stated by Dr. Gray to be dizziness, nausea followed by vomiting, burning pain in the stomach and purging. Chronic poisoning, or repeated small doses of arsenic, he says, cause watering of the eyes; and if arsenic is applied to a wound it produces injurious effects which may end in the death of the sufferer. He thinks that Colonel Phayre must have taken very little arsenic, but that he took sufficient to cause nausea, which would produce salivation, nausea being a preliminary of salivation.

13. In connection with this part of the case it is to be observed that Colonel Phayre in his evidence states that he was ailing from about the middle of September 1874. He had a cold in his head and a boil on his forehead, for which Dr. Seward attended him. A plaster was put on the boil by Dr. Seward, and the spare plaster used to remain on a table in his office room. Collodion was applied by Colonel Phayre himself to the boil in such a way that he had difficulty in removing the lint with which he had applied it. This occurred one morning between 8 and 9 o'clock, when Colonel Phayre was standing near the wash-hand-stand in his office, whence he would be visible to the peons, who had their post in the verandah leading into that room. Both before and after the application of the plaster Colonel Phayre suffered from slight fever and fulness in the head, and his eyes watered a great deal. He suspected that his sherbet was not properly made from the beginning of October 1874. On the 6th of November he took a sip or two of the sherbet and felt unwell, having fulness in the head, and being sleepy, and generally having sensations like those he had experienced in the early part of October. On the 7th of November he also took a little of the sherbet, and was conscious of having the same symptoms as on the previous day, though in a worse degree. On the 8th he took no sherbet, as he had felt so ill on the preceding day.

The mention of the symptoms Colonel Phayre had noticed between the middle of September and the 9th of November will be found to be of some importance with reference to the evidence of some of the later witnesses in this enquiry.

14. It is obvious that as  $2\frac{1}{4}$  grains of arsenic were found in the sediment of the tumbler, and in the scrapings of the verandah, a larger quantity of arsenic than would suffice to produce a fatal result must have been put into the tumbler, for it is not possible that all the arsenic contained in the sherbet was recovered from the verandah, and the quantity of the arsenic reproduced in the form of crystals by Dr. Seward's experiments is not known.

15. Having shown that poison was actually placed in Colonel Phayre's glass, the next question to consider is, by whom it was given. Abdulla Khan,\* who had been Colonel Phayre's servant for 15 or 16 years, was charged with the duty of preparing the sherbet daily, but in his absence it was the duty of the butler to prepare it. Abdulla prepared it on the morning of the 9th of November from pure pummeloe juice, and placed the tumbler containing it on the wash-hand stand in the office room, which, at the time he did so (about 6-30 A.M.) Govind Balu and Yellappa

\* No. 17.

\* No. 18. were sweeping and cleaning. Abdulla, having taken out his master's clothes for the day, left the room. Govind Balu\*, house-servant at the Residency, states that he and Yellappa cleaned out the office room on the morning of the 9th of November during the time Colonel Phayre was out for his walk; that he put fresh water into the water-bottle on the wash-hand stand, doubtless the bottle from which Dr. Seward poured a little water into the tumbler containing the sediment; that he got that water from the earthen vessel standing in the verandah of the main building from which water was supplied to the European inhabitants of the Residency; and that he left the room at about 7 o'clock before Colonel Phayre's return. He states that he saw Abdulla come into the room, arrange his master's clothes, and go out, but that he did not observe that he brought the

\* A petty officer, the lowest grade of officers is Naik; then above him is the Havildar, and above him the Jemadar. A peon is a messenger.

sherbet. Lakshiman Dariao Singh, Peon, was outside the room. After Abdulla left the room, Govind Balu states that Raoji, Havildar† of Peons, entered Colonel Phayre's office room, and was in it for 5 or 6 minutes, during which time he emptied the waste-paper basket which stood near the writing-table into another basket, which was kept in the ante-room through which access is obtained to the office room. It may be here noticed, as a fact within the personal cognizance of some of the Members of the Commission, that the office room is of small dimensions.

Yellappa‡ confirms Govind Balu's statement that he was also employed

† No. 19.

§ No. 20.

in cleaning out the office room on that morning, but he gives no further particulars. Lakshiman Dariao Singh§ deposes to his having arranged Colonel Phayre's writing-table on the morning of the 9th of November, having done which he sat at the place allotted to the peons in attendance, and observed nothing further.

16. There does not appear to be any ground for suspecting that any of these persons put the poison into the sherbet. Raoji||

|| No. 24.

confesses that he did so, and we think that his evidence on this point may be accepted as true.

17. It is now necessary to consider in detail the evidence of Raoji and other witnesses with a view to ascertaining whether Raoji was instigated to poison Colonel Phayre, and if so, by whom he was so instigated.

¶ No. 24.

18. The evidence of Raoji¶ is to the following effect:—

He was appointed by Colonel Phayre to be Havildar of Peons a year or a year and a quarter ago, and lived in the bazaar in the Baroda Camp. Two months before the Commission of 1873 commenced its sittings, Salam made repeated overtures to him to visit the Gaekwar. He at last consented, and went at about that time, *i. e.*, two months before the sitting of the Commission, with Salam and Eshwant Rao, whom he met at Eshwant Rao's house in the City of Baroda, to the Gaekwar's Palace in the city, and there had an interview with the Gaekwar in the presence of Salam and Eshwant Rao.

The Gaekwar asked him to send him information about the Residency, promising to give him rewards if he did so, and enquired whether Narsu, Jemadar of peons at the Residency, was his friend. Raoji agreed to send the information desired, said that Narsu was his friend, and on being requested by the Gaekwar to do so, consented to bring Narsu to see His Highness. The next day Raoji told Narsu of this visit and of the invitation which had been sent to him, but Narsu excused himself from going then on the plea of want of leisure.

19. Before proceeding further with the evidence of this witness, it will be convenient to explain that Salam is an Arab, living in the city of Baroda, and that he was a horseman (sowar) in the service of, and in constant attendance

\*\* Called also Jasus.

on, the Gaekwar. Eshwant Rao is a Jasud\*\* or personal messenger of the Gaekwar, and also resided in the city. The room in which this interview is said to have taken place is the same as that in which all the interviews which will be described between the Gaekwar and

the Residency servants were held. It was inspected by some Members of the Commission, and it may be described as a small room on the third storey, entered at one corner by the narrow flight of stairs which leads from the entrance of the Palace close to the rear and the Nazar-bagh (garden). The stairs terminate inside this little room, and they are not shut off by a door. The room is in fact an ante-room, in which there is a single door leading into the private apartment of the Gaekwar, where he had a bed and a bathing chair, and appliances for ablution. In the ante-room there are several mirrors attached to the walls, and there is a low and broad wooden bench on which His Highness is said to have sat on nearly every occasion of his meeting the servants. We now resume the thread of Raoji's statement.

20. Raoji paid three or four other visits to the Gaekwar before the Commission of 1873 sat, and he paid three visits while the Commission was sitting. On each of these occasions he first went to Eshwant Rao's house, and from thence he went to the Palace, accompanied by Eshwant Rao and Salam. At these visits Raoji told the Gaekwar about the persons who came to the Residency, the events that happened there, and the complaints that were made against the Gaekwar's administration at the Residency and before the Commission.

21. At one of the visits paid on a Friday while the Commission was sitting, Raoji informed the Gaekwar that he was going to be married, and the Gaekwar directed Eshwant Rao to remind him of it. On the following Monday, when the Gaekwar visited the Residency, Eshwant Rao informed Raoji that he had brought 500 rupees for him, and desired him to go to his house in the evening and receive that sum. Accordingly Raoji went in the evening to Eshwant Rao's house, accompanied by Jagga, a punkah-puller employed at the Residency, and there he received from Dalpat, Eshwant Rao's clerk, Rupees 500, Jagga being present, but not Eshwant Rao, who was upstairs. Rupees 400 were spent by Raoji in the purchase of ornaments for his marriage, and Rupees 100 he deposited with Jagga. There is no evidence on the record which directly corroborates the truth of Raoji's statement in regard to any of the visits above related, except that on which the present of Rupees 500 was spoken about. But it will be shown further on that about the time these earlier visits were being paid, the Gaekwar was also receiving visits from the woman Amina, who was an ayah in the service first of Mrs. Phayre, and subsequently of Mrs. Boevey, Mrs. Phayre's daughter, and wife of the Assistant Resident at Baroda. These is, however, evidence to corroborate the payment of the Rupees 500, and to this it is expedient now to draw attention, leaving Raoji's further narrative for the present.

22. Jagga\* (son of Bhagwan) states that he accompanied Raoji to Eshwant Rao's house one evening "fourteen or fifteen months ago," which would be about December 1873, (the Commission, it will be remembered; was sitting during November and December 1873), and that the Rupees 500 were paid to Raoji by Eshwant Rao's *Karkun* or clerk, of which sum Raoji took away Rupees 400 and gave 100 to him, Jagga, to keep.

\* No. 28.

Dalpat†, the clerk, deposes to having paid 500‡ Baroda Rupees at 8 P.M. twelve or fourteen months ago to Raoji and Jagga by the order of Eshwant Rao, who at the time of the payment was upstairs, and not, therefore, present.

† No. 33.

‡ NOTE.—The Baroda Rupee is of less value than the Queen's Rupee by from 13 to 20 per cent.

Dajiba§ was the

§ No. 30.

|| A Hindu festival.

person employed by Raoji to get the ornaments for his marriage made. He shows that about the time of the last Diwali|| but one, which was on the 20th of October 1873, he employed Shival Vithal, a goldsmith, to make up for Raoji various gold and silver ornaments for the person. These ornaments were delivered on two or three occasions as they were ready, and Dajiba got the list¶ with the prices from the goldsmith. This

¶ Exhibit Y.



list he delivered to the police when the present enquiry was set on foot, and it shows that ornaments to the value of Rupees 558-6-0 were made by Shival Vithal for Raoji between November 1873 and March 1874.

Shival Vithal\* corroborates Dajiba in regard to the time of making the ornaments, and the description of ornaments, and he states their value from memory to be Rupees 475 or 500. He was paid in full for the ornaments by Dajiba and Raoji from time to time.

\* No. 31.

Dulab,† another goldsmith, deposes to having made various ornaments of gold for Raoji in June and August 1874 to the value of Rupees 79-8-0.

† No. 32.

Shival Vithal and Dulab identified the ornaments they had respectively made, and Raoji admits that they are his property.

Raoji's salary, it may here be noted, was Rupees 10 per mensem.

23. To return to Raoji's evidence, which goes on to describe the visits paid to the Gaekwar after the Commission of 1873 had left Baroda and up to the time that the Gaekwar went to Nausari.

Raoji states that eight, nine, or ten days after the Commission left Baroda, which would be about the 3rd‡ of January 1874, he visited the Gaekwar at his Palace in company with Narsu, Jemadar of the Residency peons, Salam having previously informed Raoji that he had brought Narsu over to agreeing to come. The day was Sunday, and according to arrangement Narsu, whose house was in the City of Baroda, went to Eshwant Rao's house. Raoji started in company with either Jagga or Karbhai, both of whom were punkah-pullers at the Residency, and went to Eshwant Rao's house, where he found Narsu, Eshwant Rao, and Salam, all of whom accompanied him and his companion (Jagga or Karbhai) to the Gaekwar's Palace. Arrived there Salam went upstairs to inform the Gaekwar, and shortly summoned him and Narsu to the presence. At the interview the persons present were Raoji, Narsu, Eshwant Rao, and Salam. Raoji describes the conversation between the Gaekwar and Narsu on this occasion. The Gaekwar told Narsu that as he lived in the city he should bring information from the Residency every day, and that being an old resident of Baroda, and acquainted with the Sirdars§, he should tell him the names of the Sirdars who went to the Residency. The Jemadar Narsu consented, and said that both he and Raoji would communicate the information through Salam; on which the Gaekwar desired that if there was anything of importance to communicate, it should be committed to writing, the Jemadar bringing the letter when he came to his house in the city, and giving it to Salam. Narsu said to the Gaekwar that his brother's pension had been stopped, and he begged the Gaekwar to make some arrangement about it. The Gaekwar told Narsu to give a petition to the Resident on the subject, promising to make some arrangement if the Resident spoke to him. Two brothers of Narsu were then in the Gaekwar's service as Commandant and Jemadar of Cavalry.

24. Jagga and Karbhai|| both depose to having gone to the Gaekwar's Palace with Raoji, Narsu, Eshwant Rao, and Salam, and to having been left downstairs when those persons went up to see the Gaekwar. There are no means of identifying the man who went with the party on this occasion, but there can be no doubt that it was either Jagga or Karbhai. Narsu merely states that Raoji had a companion with him, but he does not mention his name.

|| Nos. 28, 29.

25. Raoji then goes on to say that he and Narsu visited the Gaekwar again four or five times about or before the departure of His Highness for Nausari (2nd of April 1874), and that on these occasions they gave information to the Gaekwar of the doings at the Residency. It may here be noted that Narsu only speaks of one such visit at this time, viz., his second visit.

26. Raoji states that he and Narsu went to Nausari in attendance on Colonel Phayre, and that he saw among other persons there Salam and Damodhar Punt. Raoji paid one visit to the Gaekwar when at Nausari, introduced by Salam, and the Gaekwar asked him about Bhau Poonekar and others who went to the Residency.

27. We now come to Raoji's account of his visits to the Gaekwar after the return from Nausari, which was about the 18th of May 1874, and here we remark that Raoji states that in the visits up to this time the only thing the Gaekwar desired was information about the Residency, and that it was after this event that poison was first mentioned by His Highness.

28. These visits after the return from Nausari are stated by Raoji to have been paid, some in company with Pedro de Souza, some in company with Narsu. Pedro was Colonel Phayre's butler, and had been employed in that capacity for fifteen years, having been in his service altogether for 26 years.

Pedro took leave for a month to Goa; and three of the visits in his company are fixed by Raoji as occurring before his going to Goa, and one after his return from that place. Raoji says that Pedro invited him to go with him to the palace, stating that he, Pedro, had been asked to go there by Salam. Raoji describes the first visit and the conversation thereat with the Gaekwar which he limits to enquiries regarding the conversation at the Residency dinner table, and to a request on the Gaekwar's part that Pedro should send him information through Salam. No details are given in relation to the other two visits.

The last visit with Pedro is stated by Raoji to have been two or three days after Pedro's return from Goa. Now Pedro in his evidence before this Commission does not give the date of his return from Goa; but in his statement before Mr. Edginton, the Deputy Commissioner of Police at Bombay, on the 5th of January 1875, he states that he returned to Baroda from leave on the 3rd of November 1874. Raoji recites the conversation between Pedro and the Gaekwar. After asking Pedro when he had returned from Goa, the Gaekwar said to him—"If I give you something, will you do it?" Pedro said he would, if it were possible. The Gaekwar then spoke to Eshwant Rao, who handed a paper packet to His Highness, who put it into Pedro's hands. Pedro asked what it was. The Gaekwar said it was poison, and that it should be put into Colonel Phayre's food. Pedro objected that if Colonel Phayre were to die suddenly, he (Pedro) would be taken up and be ruined. The Gaekwar then assured Pedro that nothing would happen suddenly, but that Colonel Phayre would die in two or three months. Raoji believes that Pedro kept the powder or packet, but does not know whether he used it or not. Pedro informed Raoji that he had received money from Salam before he started for Goa.

Pedro\* in his deposition admits that he went to Nausari, and that Salam urged him to go to the palace, but he denies ever having gone there, or having ever spoken to the Gaekwar. He admits that he asked Salam a short time before he went to Goa for money for his expenses by the way, and that Salam gave him 60 Baroda Rupees, saying that the Gaekwar had sent them for the expenses of his journey. He also admits having told Raoji that he had received the Rupees 60, although he says he was not intimate with him, and was only on speaking terms with him.

Whether Pedro did go to the palace at all, or Raoji did accompany him in visits to the Gaekwar, or not, must remain uncertain. There is no corroboration whatever of Raoji's statements on this point.

29. Raoji's first visit to the Gaekwar with Narsu is stated by him to have occurred two or three days after the return from Nausari. This would be the 20th or 21st of May 1874: Karbhai punkah-puller accompanied them. Fifteen days after the return from Nausari, Raoji received Rupees 300 from Narsu as his share of a present from the Gaekwar.

30. At the time Colonel Phayre had a boil on his forehead (September—October 1874), Raoji states that he again visited the Gaekwar with Narsu, and that the Gaekwar gave him a bottle containing a white liquid like water, telling him to put it into Colonel Phayre's bathing or washing water. The mouth of the bottle was stopped with cotton and bees' wax. Raoji put it inside his drawers or trousers, which were tied round the waist with a string, the bottle being pressed against his body by the string. Some of the liquid exuded; or was jerked out in walking, on to Raoji's stomach, and a swelling with a burning sensation was the result. Raoji took the bottle or phial with him to the Residency, and, in reply to Narsu's question, said that he had put its contents into Colonel Phayre's water. This, however, Raoji says, was a lie, in order to stave off the importunity that was manifested by a sowar who came daily to ask if he had done the business. In point of fact he says he flung away the contents of the bottle, because he thought they would injure his master, Colonel Phayre. Raoji showed to Narsu the injury on his stomach. The bottle was kept under a box which was in the verandah of the Residency near the bench where the attendant messenger sat. The bottle was as long as Raoji's forefinger and thin.

The evidence of Dr. Gray, who was examined specially with reference to the injury on Raoji's stomach, is to the effect that the three marks visible thereon above the navel, where the drawer strings are tied, were caused either by caustic or burning from a hot iron; that arsenic is a caustic; and that arsenic in suspension might cause an injury, leaving such marks as those existing on Raoji's belly, if kept in contact with the skin for an hour, even though the surface of the skin were unbroken before the contact. Dr. Gray is of opinion that the injury on Raoji's person may have been caused in the way described by the witness, supposing arsenic to have been contained in the bottle. Our opinion on this episode of the bottle will be given when considering the evidence of Damodhar Punt.

31. Raoji describes another visit he paid one evening to the Gaekwar in the palace four or five months after receiving the Rupees 300 from Narsu. This would make the visit to fall in October or November 1874. Raoji thinks it was 15 or 20 days before the 9th of November. The room in which the interview with the Gaekwar is said to have been held is described by Raoji as His Highness' bath-room, the time 7 P.M., or somewhat later, and the persons present Salam, Eshwant Rao, Narsu, and Raoji. The following is Raoji's account of the

\* The Gaekwar is commonly referred to as the Maharaja, which is one of his titles.

† Meaning Colonel Phayre.

conversation that passed:—"The Maharaja \* said to us—"The Saheb† practises great oppression (*zulm*) on me. I will tell you something; will you listen to it!"

"Then I and the Jemadar said, 'We will listen.' Then the Maharaja said, 'What is the saheb in the habit of eating?' I then said, 'He does not eat anything in my presence, but he drinks juice (*ras*) sherbet.' Then the Maharaja said to us, 'If I give you something will you put it in (*dalna*)?' Then we said 'What will be the effect of it (*kya hoega*)?' Narsu it was who said this. Then the Maharaja said to us, 'I will send a packet by the hands of Salam Sowar.' I thereupon asked the Maharaja 'What will be the effect of it?' (The Interpreter Mr. Nowrojee says the word interpreted as packet may also mean powder *puri*). When I asked 'What substance is it' (or rather 'thing')? Then the Maharaja said, 'It is poison, (*zahar*).' I then said to the Maharaja, 'If I put it in and if anything happens to the Saheb all of a sudden, what then?' The Maharaja said 'It will not produce any immediate effect, but will produce an effect in the course of two or three months.' Then the Maharaja said to us, 'I will give you a present of a lakh each, if you will do this thing, and I will employ you, or give you service, and I will protect your children and family. Do not entertain any apprehensions.' I myself asked the Maharaja 'In what manner shall I put this in?' Then the Maharaja said, 'Take a small bottle, put some water and the powder in it, shake it well, and put that in?' Then I asked the Maharaja 'If I put the powder thus, what will be the effect?' The Maharaja said, 'If without shaking it you put it in the juice, it will come to the



“top, therefore you should shake it before putting it in.’ Then Salam Sowar and Eshwant Rao both said ‘It will be good for you if you do this job, do not have any apprehensions.’ The Maharaja said, ‘Make three powders of this, and finish them in three days.’ At that time no powder was shown me; nothing was shown me then. The Maharaja said, ‘I will send it to the Jemadar’s house by the hands of Salam or Eshwant Rao.’ I said ‘Very well.’”

32. The day following this interview Narsu brought and gave to Raoji a packet containing two powders, one white and the other rose-coloured; the quantity in each being, as shown to the Court by the witness, about a tea-spoonful: the white powder, however, being rather more than the others. Raoji then made up these two powders into three, by dividing the rose-coloured powder into three portions, and adding a pinch of the white powder, which he believed to be arsenic, to each. There was thus a remnant of the white powder which Raoji put into the secret pocket of his belt in paper; and the three compound powders he placed in another pocket of the belt. (The belt is a band of thick cloth lined, encircling one shoulder and falling down to the hip on the other side. There it is joined, and a slide is sewn on for a sword. The waist-band (*kammarband*) is tied over the belt, leaving the slide open underneath it). The three compound powders Raoji states he put into Colonel Phayre’s sherbet in his office room, one at a time, on alternate days, having first shaken up the powder in water in a phial.

33. This is a convenient place to consider the matter of the discovery of the arsenic powder which has been referred to as the third packet examined by Dr. Gray.

Colonel Phayre has shown that he put Raoji under arrest on suspicion on the evening of the 9th of November, and Raoji states that he was released on the 11th, but was not allowed to resume duty, and went to his house. Raoji also states that on the morning of the 9th of November before he was arrested he was suspended, and that he put his belt of office in the office room occupied by Colonel Phayre at the Residency, Mr. Boevy,\* who was Assistant Resident at the time, shows, however, that Raoji hung up the belt, when he was deprived of it, on a peg in the room adjoining Colonel Phayre’s office, and this, no doubt, is the correct statement.

\* No. 40.

Raoji was arrested by the Police on the 22nd of December 1874, their suspicions having been directed against him by information they had obtained of the large expenditure, with reference to his means, that he had been incurring in the town. On the 24th, 25th, and 26th of December the statements of Raoji were recorded by Mr. Souter, and on the 25th, Akbar Ali,† head of the Detective Police of Bombay, asked Raoji where he kept the powders he had brought from the palace. Raoji replied that he used to put them in his belt, which was then with Bhudar, who had been appointed to succeed him. Bhudar was at once sent for, and came to the room in the Residency where the Police were carrying on their investigation under Mr. Souter, who was also living there, and took off the belt which he was wearing, and handed it to Akbar Ali. Mr. Souter was at that time dressing. Akbar Ali at once examined the belt, and when his finger came in contact with a bit of paper inside the pocket, he called to Mr. Souter, who was in the adjoining room, and in Mr. Souter’s presence the packet of arsenic and a piece of thread were found. It is clear from the evidence of Raoji, Akbar Ali, Bhudar, and Mr. Souter that Raoji had forgotten all about this powder, and that it was not until it was found that he recollected the circumstance. There appears to be no reason whatever for suspecting any foul play on the part of the Police in connection with this discovery, which certainly corroborates Raoji’s statement in regard to his treatment of the two powders. Raoji explains that he knew the white powder to be arsenic, and that he put only a little of it into each of the rose-coloured powders for fear lest the action of the poison should be too rapid.

† No. 38.

"The Maharaja said, 'If the thing is done, it will be good for you.' Eshwant Rao repeated the same thing. By the words 'It will be good for you' was meant, 'you will get your meat and drink well, so that you will not depend on service.' The Maharaja said this. Salam and Eshwunt Rao said the same thing. This interview lasted ten minutes, or a quarter of an hour. I don't remember the month. The occasion was 15 days or 20 days or 25 days, or a month before Colonel Phayre discovered poison in his tumbler. At that interview no packet was given me. After it was over Salam gave me a packet the next day. Salam gave it me at my house. The packet was as long as my forefinger, made up in Ahmedabad paper. Salam said to me, 'This is the packet to which the Maharaja referred, give it to Raoji.' I did not open it, but kept it in my turban. When I came to the Residency at 8 o'clock I gave it to Raoji." In his cross-examination Narsu explained that he joined in this conspiracy, thinking he should get money and advancement from the Gaekwar.

39. The date of the final visit with Raoji to the Gaekwar Narsu gives as the 2nd or 3rd of November. Raoji says it was the 6th. Narsu went as usual to Eshwant Rao's house at 8 P.M., and the party, consisting of Raoji, Narsu, Karbhai, and Jagga proceeded to the palace, where they saw the Gaekwar in the ante-room as usual, introduced by Eshwant Rao and Salam. Narsu gives the following account of what passed:—"The Maharaja said, 'You are a *lucha* (a loose fellow)' and used a coarse expression. 'You have done nothing as yet.' I said, 'Raoji knows that.' Raoji then said, 'As far as I am concerned, I did put it in.' Raoji added 'What can I do if your medicine (*dawa*) is not good?' The Maharaja said to Raoji 'Very well, I will send another packet, and you do it properly (*barabar karo*).' He added, 'Put it in well.' Raoji said 'Very well.' Eshwant Rao and the Maharaja both said 'It will be brought to you to-morrow by Salam. Give it to Raoji.'" Narsu then says that the following day Salam gave him a packet like the previous one near his house, and that he handed it over to Raoji at the Residency. Raoji says that as he was leaving the palace, Salam put something into the Jemadar's hand, which he did not see. There is here a discrepancy which has not been cleared up.

40. On the 9th of November Narsu went to the Residency at 8 A.M., and after Dr. Seward had left, Raoji told him that he had put the poison in the tumbler of sherbet, and that the 'Doctor Saheb' (meaning Dr. Seward) had taken it away. Narsu remained on duty at the Residency till he was arrested by the Police on the 23rd of December 1874.

41. It is now desirable to allude to the evidence of Raoji and Narsu in regard to letters sent by the former to the palace. Narsu states that during the rainy season of 1874 (June—September) he received 20 or 25 letters from Raoji containing the names of visitors and information for delivery to Salam, and that he did deliver them. They were not written on Mondays and Thursdays. Raoji says that he sent some letters of this kind; some of which he wrote himself, and one or two he got Jagga to write. Jagga corroborates this statement, and identifies one letter (Exhibit X) as having been written by himself by direction of Raoji and Narsu. Exhibit X is a letter giving information about visits paid by certain persons to the Resident and the conversations that occurred. The letter was found in Salam's

\* Nos. 34, 35, and 36. house, as proved on the evidence of Chagan Lall,\* Imam Ali, and Manibhai.

42. The evidence that has been produced leads to the belief that Raoji and Narsu had no opportunity of conversing after they were arrested, and that their evidence is the result of their individual experience. Raoji's statement had not been recorded when Narsu appeared before Sir L. Pelly and made his statement on the 24th of December, and it is therefore impossible that the Police could have instructed Narsu as to the particulars of the statement he was to make. Both these witnesses remained unshaken under cross-examination, and we believe that their evidence in the matters wherein they

substantially agree is true. Narsu, when adjured by Sir Dinkur Rao at the close of his evidence to tell the truth without fear and as in the presence of God, declared that he had spoken the whole truth, and that the offer of a pardon could not induce him to say anything else. We also observe that Narsu, after having had his statement and confession taken down by Mr. Souter on the 26th of December 1874, threw himself into a well in the Residency compound, being covered with shame at the part he had taken against a man whom both he and Raoji describe as a kind master. Narsu hesitated in Court to say that he had actually thrown himself into the well, and said that his head had become giddy from seeing some of his fellow-servants and that he had fallen in; but having inspected the well, it is difficult to us to conceive that his fall into it could have been accidental, and there is good ground for the presumption that it was intentional on his part.

43. The evidence of Damodhar Punt\* must now be examined. He used to attend at the Gaekwar's Palace daily from 7 A.M. till 10 P.M., and received a salary of Rs. 200 per mensem. He was the Gaekwar's Private Secretary, and states that he had all His Highness' private accounts under his control. In the dark half of the month Bhadrapad (September and October 1874) he was directed by the Gaekwar to get two tolas† of arsenic for itch, and to write for it to the *Foujdari* Department. There was an edict that arsenic could only be had in the *Foujdari*, and it could always be had under the Gaekwar's order. Accordingly Damodhar Punt wrote to the *Foujdari* officer the letter which has been produced (Exhibit Z). It bears date the 4th of October 1874, and directs that a pass be sent for two tolas of arsenic for "medicine for a horse." The son of Ganpat Rao Balwant, the City *Foujdar*, endorsed an order on this in his father's name to Dattatraya Ramchandar on the 5th of October as follows:—"The Shrimant Sirkar Maharaj has ordered to give arsenic, tolas two, as above, on receiving the price; therefore giving to the said person arsenic as above, take the price." Damodhar Punt states that he mentioned the horse because he was so directed by the Gaekwar. Hormasji Wadia was the Huzoor *Foujdar*, and he informed Damodhar Punt that he would give the arsenic after asking the Gaekwar's permission. Damodhar Punt told the Gaekwar of this, and the Gaekwar told him to get the arsenic somehow or other from Nurudin, a Borah living in the Baroda Camp, who had business with the Gaekwar's *Sillehkhana*‡ or Dispensary. Damodhar Punt accordingly got a packet that was said to contain two tolas of arsenic from Nurudin, either that day or the next (the 5th or 6th October 1874), and gave it, by the Gaekwar's directions, to Salam shortly afterwards: the Gaekwar saying that Salam would convert it into medicine for itch and bring it. No arsenic was got from the *Foujdari*.

Dattatraya Ramchandar,§ employed in the Gaekwar's *Foujdari* Office, deposes that he received Exhibit Z, and that it remained in the *Foujdari* Office till it was sent for by the present head of that office three weeks previously to his giving his evidence; that no arsenic was given on that order; that an order had been in force for the past eighteen months that arsenic and other poisons were not to be given out except under an order from the Gaekwar; and that this document does not contain the Gaekwar's order, though it is stated in the endorsement that the Gaekwar had given sanction.

44. Damodhar Punt then goes on to state that about eight days after he got the arsenic the Gaekwar ordered him to get one tola of diamonds and give them to Eshwant Rao. He got a packet said to contain diamonds from Nanaji Vithal, the clerk of the jewel department under him, and gave it after asking the Gaekwar for instructions, and in accordance with those instructions, to Eshwant Rao.

\* No. 41.  
† A tola equals  $\frac{2}{3}$  of an ounce in weight.  
‡ This word generally denotes an arsenal; but in Baroda it is used to indicate the State medicine store: possibly from the place having formerly been used as an arsenal.

§ No. 47.



45. He further says that eight or four days after this, Gujaba, servant of Nana Khanvelkar, brother-in-law and hereditary minister of the Gaekwar, brought to him a small bottle containing some medicine.

\* Probably blister flies are meant.

The Gaekwar had previously given Damodhar Punt orders to send\* large ants, snakes, and the urine of a black horse to the Hakim (Gaekwar's doctor), and the contents of the bottle brought by Gujaba were a concoction made by the Hakim. The Gaekwar having desired Damodhar Punt to pour the stuff into another bottle, Damodhar Punt poured it into a smaller bottle of his own, about half a forefinger's length, which had contained attar, or essential oil of roses. Whether the witness used the words attar of roses, or merely attar, which might mean any essential oil, is doubtful: The record has it attar of roses. The point is not very material, and it is clear to us that the small bottle referred to is not one of the usual otto of rose bottles known in Europe which contain only a few drops. Having poured the stuff into this smaller bottle, Damodhar Punt closed the mouth with cotton and bees' wax. The next day Damodhar Punt gave the bottle to Salam in accordance with the Gaekwar's verbal order given to him, and directed Salam to give the bottle to Raoji. Damodhar Punt is not very certain about the time he gave the bottle, but he is sure it was after August 1874, and he indicates the Dasserah (20th October) as the time about which he did so. He states that he knew the bottle was to be used to poison Colonel Phayre. We are unable to come to a satisfactory conclusion as to the precise manner in which Raoji became possessed of this bottle, but we are disposed to believe that he did, directly or indirectly, receive from the Maharaja a bottle containing some noxious liquid which was intended to be used to injure Colonel Phayre.

46. Subsequently Damodhar Punt got two more tolas of arsenic from Nurudin by the Gaekwar's orders, which he also gave to Salam.

47. He also, in obedience to the Gaekwar's orders, got from Nanaji Vithal a second tola of diamonds. Nanaji Vithal delivered a packet to Damodhar Punt, which he said contained 3† mashas of diamond dust and 9 mashas of diamonds. This packet Damodhar Punt, by the Gaekwar's order, gave to Eshwant Rao, who, in reply to a question put by Damodhar Punt, said that they were to be made into a powder and given to Colonel Phayre. This packet of diamonds was given to Eshwant Rao five or seven days before the 9th of November 1874. The Gaekwar told Damodhar Punt that these diamonds were for a crown for the high priest of Akalkote.

48. It should here be observed that there is no evidence whatever to confirm Damodhar Punt's statement in regard to the procurement of the arsenic from Nurudin. That the Gaekwar desired to obtain arsenic may be held to be proved by the evidence of Damodhar Punt and by Exhibit Z. That arsenic was obtained by Damodhar Punt in the way he describes we consider highly probable. We are also of opinion that it is proved by the evidence of Raoji and Narsu that the poison used against Colonel Phayre came from Salam. That the arsenic which Damodhar Punt gave to Salam is the same that was used to poison Colonel Phayre is certainly probable. We are not prepared however, in the absence of corroborative evidence of the truth of Damodhar Punt's statement, to say that it is proved that the arsenic administered by Raoji was that, Damodhar Punt says, he obtained from Nurudin and gave to Salam.

49. In regard to the purchase of the diamonds, there is the following further evidence:† Nanaji Vithal, the Darogah or chief officer of the Gaekwar's jewel department, deposes that shortly before the last Dasserah (20th of October 1874) he purchased by Damodhar Punt's orders 68 or 68½ ratties§ of flat rose diamonds, 1 to 4 diamonds per ratti, from Hemchand, son of Fattchchand. He instructed a clerk to prepare a memorandum (yad) of the purchase. Seven or eight days afterwards he purchased from Hemchand about 74 ratties weight of diamonds of the same kind by Damodhar Punt's

† No. 43.

§ A ratti equals 1½ grain troy.

orders, and an entry of their purchase was made on the same memorandum. Both lots of diamonds were given to Damodhar Punt as they were purchased, and Damodhar Punt told this witness that the diamonds were to be reduced to powder or ashes to be used as medicine. The total price was Rs. 6,003. Rs. 3,000 were paid by Nanaji Vithal to Hemchand as follows:—Rs. 2,000 were paid through Nanchand, Shroff of the Domala Mahal, out of two items aggregating

Rs. 3,629-13-8,\* which were obtained by savings in the lighting department, and sale of gold coins presented as *nazarana* and credited to the Gaekwar's private account. Rs. 1,000 were paid by Nanaji Vithal himself. He says that the *yad* on which the purchases of these diamonds were entered was written by Atmaram, clerk, and that about the end of the Diwali† (9th of November 1874) Damodhar Punt took it away, in consequence of which the diamonds do not appear in any of the accounts of the jewel-room.

† The Diwali began on the 8th November and ended on the 11th November 1874, the principal day being the 9th.

Atmaram,‡ clerk in the Gaekwar's State jewel-room under Nanaji Vithal, deposes that diamonds were bought from Hemchand about eight days before the last Dewali, a *yad* being prepared by Venaik Rao, son of Venkatesh, and kept by witness till after the report was known of Colonel Phayre having been poisoned, when Nanaji Vithal took it from him. This witness stated also that there was a large quantity of diamonds, loose as well as set, in the Gaekwar's jewel-room, and that at the time of the purchase of these diamonds the ornamentation of a sword handle, scabbard, and jacket with small diamonds procured from the Gaekwar's jewel store was proceeding, there being a balance of such stones going on from year to year. He also stated in cross-examination that after Nanaji had taken away the *yad*, he, Atmaram, asked Hemchand whether he had received his diamonds back, and he replied in the affirmative, Nanaji Vithal also having said at the time of taking away the *yad* that the diamonds were not to be purchased, and that he wished to return them.

50. Damodhar Punt gives the following account about the payment for these diamonds which he received from Nanaji Vithal. He received verbal orders from the Gaekwar to pay for them, and he directed Nanaji Vithal to disburse the money from funds which he had received on the Gaekwar's private account. Those funds he describes as the sums shown in Exhibits R1 and S1 above referred to. The total sum shown in those exhibits to have been credited to the private account is Rs. 3,629-13-3. The order for the payment to the jewellers for these diamonds is stated by Damodhar Punt to be Exhibit T1, dated the 31st December 1874, which sets forth that Rs. 3,632-13-3 have been given by the Gaekwar for a feast to the Brahmins at Swami Narain's temple. Damodhar Punt states that this was a fictitious order, made to conceal the real purpose for which the money was required.

There can be no doubt that this is the case, because Rameshwar,§ mentioned in the order as the payee and provider of the feast, deposes that he did not receive the amount, and corroborates Damodhar Punt's statement that a receipt, was always affixed to the order by the payee, by referring to a true order (Exhibit Y1), on which there is a receipt of his, whereas T1 has no such receipt. But there is a doubt whether T1 is really the equivalent of the sums shown in R1 and S1, because, in the first place, the total of R1 and S1 is Rs. 3,629-13-3, whereas the total of T1 is Rs. 3,632-13-3; and, secondly, the date of T1 is the 31st of December 1874, whereas R1 is dated the 1st of January 1875. It is clear, however, that Nanaji Vithal did, as he admits, receive the

|| NOTE.—Subsequently added by Mr. P. S. Melvill, Commissioner.

The doubt expressed in paragraph 50 in regard to the total of Exhibit T1 not agreeing with the totals of Exhibits R1 and S1 was caused by misreading a badly printed figure 6 in Exhibit R1 for a 3. In reality the total of T1 does agree with the totals of R1 and S1.

11th April 1875.

P. S. MELVILL.

amounts shown in R1 and S1, and it is also clear that T1 put into the hands or power of Damodhar Punt a sum of money which might be used for secret service. Indeed Damodhar Punt shows clearly that large sums were from time to time set aside as secret service money. Exhibits A1 to Q1, bearing date from the 24th of November 1873 to the 13th of October 1874, are fictitious orders for payment to Salam and Eshwant Rao on account of goods alleged to have been purchased by them for the Gaekwar; and the proof of their fictitiousness, as explained by Damodhar Punt, is that they contain no details of the goods or of the names of the merchants from whom they were purchased. One difference between the orders A1 to Q1 and the order T1 is this, that the former bear in each case the acknowledgment of the payee, whereas T1 does not. It is therefore evident that T1 is not only fictitious in its purposes, but is also made so as to conceal the name of the person to whom payment was made, and it may be regarded as corroborating Damodhar Punt's statement that he directed Nanaji Vithal to pay for the diamonds. Damodhar Punt also says, and in this he is corroborated by Nanaji Vithal and Atmaram, that the diamonds were not credited or entered in the jewel accounts, as the Gaekwar said they were for medicine, and that only a *yad* or memorandum to that effect was prepared in the jewel department, which *yad* the Gaekwar, on being asked by Damodhar Punt about it after the attempt to poison Colonel Phayre on the 9th November had become known, directed should be destroyed. Damodhar Punt accordingly told Nanaji Vithal to remove the *yad*, which he did, and the amount was shown as paid to Swami Narain (T1).

51. It now remains to examine the evidence of Hemchand\* in regard to these diamonds. This witness contradicted himself in the most violent way, and no reliance can be placed on his evidence generally. His object seemed to be to deny all connection with the purchase of the diamonds. He admits that he took two packets of diamonds to Venaik Rao (brother-in-law of Nanaji Vithal and employed in the Gaekwar's jewel department) on the 31st of October or 1st of November 1874, but he says that they were returned to him. He denies ever having sold diamonds to Damodhar Punt, Nanaji Vithal, or Venaik Rao. He admits having received Rs. 2,000 from Nanaji Vithal on the 3rd of December 1874, and another 2,000 on the 2nd and 3rd of January 1875, but he states that these were on account of Hundi (bill of exchange) transactions. The Hundi transactions are entered in the name of Shivchand Khusalchand, a Poona Firm, Nanaji Vithal having purchased from that firm goods to the value of Rupees 7,000, and remitted Hundies to that amount procured from him (Hemchand). It is not at all established to our satisfaction that these payments of Rs. 2,000 each on the 3rd of December 1874, and the 2nd and 3rd of January 1875, were on account of the Hundi transactions. More probable does it appear that the payments were really for the diamonds as stated by Nanaji Vithal. Hemchand admits that the Rs. 2,000 paid on the 2nd and 3rd of January were received from the Karkoon of the Domala villages, as stated by Nanaji Vithal, and the date of payment is consistent with Nanaji Vithal's statement that the money was in part of the sum covered by the order No. T1, which bears date the 1st of January 1875. In regard to the Rs. 2,000 paid on the 3rd of December 1874, Nanaji Vithal deposes that he did pay that sum to Hemchand, but that he received back a Hundi and cash to the amount of Rs. 1,000, leaving the Rs. 1,000 net to be credited; and Hemchand admits that he did give to Venaik Rao, son of Venkatesh and brother-in-law of Nanaji Vithal, a Hundi for Rs. 750 on the 8th of December 1874; the premium on the Hundi being Rs. 155-10 and Rs. 94-6 having been paid in cash to Venaik Rao—total Rs. 1,000. It is therefore clear that this transaction, which left a net credit to Nanaji Vithal's account of Rs. 1,000, either had no connection with the payment for the diamonds, or that it was entered on by Nanaji Vithal before, so far as is known, any funds had been placed in his hands with a view to paying for the diamonds. Hemchand's

\* No. 42.



books afford but little assistance in corroborating Damodhar Punt's statement in regard to the purchase of the diamonds. Only one of these books (marked A 2) has been put in before us, and it has been tampered with. We find no grounds for considering that the police had anything to do with the tampering. There is an entry of the 7th and 8th of November 1874 of the purchase by Nanaji, on account of Damodhar Punt, of diamonds to the value of Rs. 6,270; and Hemchand admits that this entry is in his own handwriting, but he urges that it was made under compulsion exercised by Gajanand, Inspector of Police, on the evening of the day he made his first statement before Mr. Souter (the 6th of February 1875). As stated above, we do not believe that Gajanand did exercise any such compulsion, because the entries are contradictory to some extent to the statement made by Hemchand before Mr. Souter, and it is not to be supposed that Gajanand, an astute man would be guilty of a gross anachronism. But with advertence to the undoubted fact that this book has been altered, we prefer not to place any reliance on it. The only portion of Hemchand's evidence which has an important bearing on the case is that which relates to the taking of diamonds to the palace, and the payment of Rupees 3,000 net.

52. The conclusion we draw on the question of the purchase of the diamond is that there is reason to believe that Damodhar Punt in October and the beginning of November 1874, under directions from the Gaekwar, got diamonds from Nanaji Vithal, which he gave to Eshwant Rao; that Nanaji bought them from Hemchand; and that the palace accounts and Hemchand's accounts have been falsified so as to conceal the purchase of the diamonds.

The natives of Baroda, in common with the natives of India generally, probably believe in the poisonous properties of pounded diamonds, although there is apparently no well grounded reason for such a belief. The question naturally arises why Damodhar Punt did not get the diamonds from the Gaekwar's jewel room, where there was a stock in hand. The only answer to this question that can be suggested is that it was probably thought easier to conceal a purchase of new diamonds than to take them from a store the keeper of which would be bound to exhibit the transaction in his accounts.

53. Damodhar Punt was arrested on the evening of the day the Gaekwar was put into confinement (14th January 1875). He was confined for two days in the Senapati's Office at the palace, and then he was brought to the Residency, where he was placed under a guard of European soldiers for 16 days, and afterwards under a police guard. He was present at the palace when his papers there were sealed up after the Gaekwar's arrest. Being, he states, tired of the European guard, and thinking that he could not otherwise get out of confinement, Damodhar Punt made a confession to Mr. Richey, Assistant Resident, on the 29th and 30th of January 1875, and this confession was attested before Sir Lewis Pelly on the 2nd of February 1875. It is substantially the same as his evidence before the Commission, and it was made under a promise of pardon from Sir L. Pelly.

54. After his confession, his box containing the private papers of the Gaekwar was unsealed in his presence, and the exhibits marginally noted were found therein. He states that although before his arrest he used to hear from Salam what he had heard regarding the statements of Raoji and others, yet he never was informed of any of the details of Raoji and Narsu's confessions up to the time he made his own confession to Mr. Richey. It is impossible for us to say that this assertion should be accepted as true, but no evidence has been produced to contradict it. It is to be noticed that Damodhar Punt never went to the Residency in Colonel Phayre's time, and that he accompanied the Gaekwar on one occasion only, after Sir L. Pelly had assumed office at Baroda. He never saw Raoji at the palace, but he mentions that Salam said to the Gaekwar in his presence, at the time when Colonel Phayre was suffering from the boil in September, that he had induced Raoji to put a pinch of arsenic on the plaster used for the boil, and

that this had caused a burning sensation, which led Colonel Phayre to remove the plaster.

He repeats several conversations he alleges he had with the Gaekwar, beginning with the 9th of November, and ending with the date of his arrest. These conversations, if they really occurred, and have been truly related, show that the Gaekwar was cognizant of the rumour which had spread on the 9th of November of the attempt having been made on that day to poison Colonel Phayre. There is one circumstance noticed in the conversation of the 9th of November which is corroborated by independent evidence, and, so far as it goes, it supports Damodhar Punt's accounts of these conversations. The Gaekwar, when returning from the Residency on the morning of the 9th of November, said to Damodhar Punt that Salam had run that morning to Raoji's house for the purpose of getting hold of any packets of the poison that might have remained and throwing them into the fire. Natha Jagga \* in charge of the

\* No. 22.

conservancy of the Sadar Bazaar in the Baroda Camp where Raoji lived, saw Salam riding towards the Sadar Bazaar from the direction of the city on the morning of the 9th of November, and he saw him riding back towards the city about 5 minutes afterwards. Mahomed Ali Baksh, † a Residency messenger, spoke to Salam at the Residency before Colonel Phayre returned from his walk that morning; and as he was coming back to the Residency from the Sadar Bazaar after leaving Dr. Seward's house, where he had taken the letter given to him by Colonel Phayre, (evidently alluding to the first letter Colonel Phayre wrote asking Dr. Seward to come to the Residency), he saw Salam riding back towards the city. Now this evidence of Natha Jagga and Mahomed Ali Baksh, though not conclusive as to the fact that Salam went to Raoji's house on the morning of the 9th, shows that very probably he did so; and as Salam must have returned to the Gaekwar before His Highness paid his usual visit that morning to the Resident, the fact which the Gaekwar mentioned to Damodhar Punt, viz., that Salam had gone to Raoji's house to destroy any powders that might have remained, is probably true, and it is difficult to conceive that Damodhar Punt could have fabricated the statement alleged to have been made to him by the Gaekwar.

† No. 23.

Damodhar Punt also says that the Gaekwar in his presence repeatedly cautioned Salam and Eshwant Rao not to say anything about the poisoning when alarm had been caused by the inquiry that was set on foot. These persons have not been called as witness in this investigation either for the prosecution or the defence.

55. Damodhar Punt describes the system of accounts prevailing in his (the private or *khangī*) department: and it will be sufficient here to mention that the first paper is the memorandum or *yad* which recites the order for payment, and is receipted by the payee. From the *yad* a daily journal is prepared, and from the daily journal a monthly account, and from this a yearly account. The *yad* and daily journal could easily be destroyed; but when once the monthly account had been made and incorporated in the yearly account, the difficulty of making away with all trace of any particular item would be greatly increased, and this was the reason assigned by Damodhar Punt in cross-examination for not destroying all the papers which in any way bear on the transactions which have resulted in this enquiry. An attempt was made to obliterate entries in four ‡ daily journals. Damodhar Punt says that he caused Balwant Rao, clerk, to make these obliterations by pouring ink over that part in each which contains the name of Salam. § Balwant Rao denies having made the obliterations, which are most clumsily done, though they have been effectual. Damodhar Punt states that he had the entries obliterated in order to hide Salam's share in these transactions and to screen the Gaekwar, and that he did so in.

‡ Exhibit U1.

" V1.

" W1.

" X1.

§ No. 45.

obedience to the Gaekwar's orders. He admits now that it was unwise to do so, as the ink splashes attract attention to the papers. These papers were part of those under Damodhar Punt's control which were sealed up at the palace on the day the Gaekwar was arrested, and the evidence of Gajanand\* and Mr. Souter† shows that when the papers were subsequently opened in Damodhar Punt's presence, they were in the same condition as that in which they were when produced before us. Lastly, Damodhar Punt states that no payment was made to Nurudin for the arsenic, as he was promised the business of the Gaekwar's Sillehkhana (Dispensary) in consideration of his having given it. Nurudin has been arrested, but he has not been put into the witness box.

56. The remaining evidence in the case is that of the Ayah‡ Amina and of those connected with her. She was in the service first of Mrs. Phayre, and accompanied that lady to Bombay in March 1874. She then remained in Bombay for a month, and, on returning to Baroda, entered the service of Mrs. Boevey, who was then residing at the Residency. She describes three visits she paid to the Gaekwar in the palace, it being the evening time on each occasion.

The first visit she paid with Faizu, § Chobdar of the Residency peons at the time the Commission of 1873 was coming to a close, and she states that she went at Faizu's solicitation. She and Faizu were introduced to the Gaekwar by Salam, whom they picked up on the way. The Gaekwar asked Amina whether she had heard Mrs. Phayre say anything about the Commission, and he directed her to send word by Salam or Eshwant Rao if she did say anything. Faizu, although he denies having persuaded Amina, states that he did accompany her to the Gaekwar, Karbhai being the driver. He heard the conversation between the Ayah and the Gaekwar. The Gaekwar asked the Ayah to speak to Mrs. Phayre in his favor, as many persons were making representations about him, and the Ayah replied that she could not make any solicitation to Mrs. Phayre. Karbhai|| deposes to having driven the Ayah and Faizu to the palace on this occasion.

57. The second visit the Ayah says she paid in June 1874 after the Gaekwar's return from Nausari, on the invitation of Salam and Karim (Naik of the Residency peons). She was accompanied by Karim, and was joined by Salam, who took her and Karim to the Gaekwar, who asked her if Mrs. Boevey had said anything about the marriage at Nausari. Amina replied that she had heard nothing, but that when Mrs. Phayre returned from England some good thing would happen to the Gaekwar, as she and Colonel Phayre were favourably disposed towards him. The Gaekwar then told Karim to say something in his favour to Mr. Boevey. As Amina and Karim were taking their leave, the Gaekwar told Salam to give them something. Salam then told Karim to go the next day to Eshwant Rao's house; and the next evening Karim came to Amina, saying that he had got Rs. 200, of which he gave her half the next morning. She understood the present to have reference to the Nausari marriage. Karim¶ corroborates the Ayah in regard to the visit and as to the general purport of the conversation. He says, however, that the Gaekwar asked Amina whether the Resident was angry with him on account of the marriage (alluding to the marriage with Lakshmi Bai.) He states that he went the next day to Eshwant Rao's house, where Salam gave him Rs. 200 as a Nausari present, half being for himself and half for Amina to whom he gave Rs. 100. This witness contradicts the Ayah about his having, asked her to go, and he says that she took him.

Sandal\*\* was the carriage-driver on this occasion, and he proves that he drove Amina and Karim to the palace.

\*\* No. 5.



58. The third visit, the Ayah says, occurred in the month of Ramzan, and her husband,\* Abdulla, gives the time as the 15th or 18th of that month. The Ramzan in 1874 began on the 12th of October, so that this visit, according to Abdulla, would have occurred on the 27th or 30th of October. Amina says that Salam brought her a message that the Gaekwar wished to see her, and that she and her servant boy, Chotu, went in a carriage procured by her husband, and that she called for Salam on the way, and went up with him into the presence of the Gaekwar, with whom she held the following conversation:—"The Maharaja first asked me this—'Has the Madam Saheb been saying anything about the child?' The Madam Saheb was Mrs. Boevey, and the child was one born to the Maharaja. I said, 'The Madam Saheb has said nothing, and I know nothing.' I then said, 'When the senior Madam Saheb (meaning Mrs. Phayre) comes, something good will occur to you. She and Colonel Phayre both wish you well.' I then said to the Maharaja, 'When the Madam Saheb comes back, something good will happen to you. Do you attend to what the Saheb says. Don't be afraid.' Then Salam said, 'Can any charm be used?' Salam it was who first spoke of charm. Salam said, 'Should a charm be used, will the Saheb's heart be turned?' but I did not exactly understand his meaning. I then said to Salam, as well as to the Maharaja, 'Don't you use any *jadu* (arts of sorcery) for the Saheb, for they will have no effect on a Saheb.' The reason I gave for that was this, that the Saheb people had faith in God. Then Salam said to me, 'Should anything be given to a Saheb, what do you think the effect would be?' At this I felt very much alarmed, because before that I had heard something stated by two persons. I then said, 'Maharaja, I am going away.' I don't see the Maharaja here now; if he were here, he would corroborate me. Then Salam, addressing me, said, 'Hear what the Maharaja will tell you, and if you attend to him, you will have enough to live on for the rest of your life.' Salam then said to me, 'Your husband will also get employment, and you too will not have to serve any more.' I said in return to Salam, 'I have not been starving all this time back. I have spent all my life hitherto, serving the English.' Just then as I was about to go away, I said to the Maharaja, 'Don't you listen to what any body may tell you to do to the Saheb; for if anything injurious should happen to the Saheb, you will be ruined.' Then it seemed to me that the Maharaja got angry at this, because he said to Salam, 'Take the Ayah away.' I and Salam then went downstairs to the place where the *gari* had stopped."

It will be recollected that Lakshmi Bai's son was borne on the 16th of October 1874. The next time Salam came to the Residency, he told Amina that he had placed Rupees 50 under her cot, and there she found them.

Chotu† corroborates the Ayah in regard to going to the palace with her on this occasion, and so does Daud, the driver of the carriage, who states the date of the visit to have been two or four days before the last Diwali. The Diwali of 1874 fell on the 9th of November.

59. Abdulla,‡ husband of Amina, states that Salim used to go to Faizu's room in the Residency premises to drink water; he was informed by his wife of the first and second visits, and was aware of her having received the hundred rupees, and he recites the substance of her conversation with the Gaekwar on the third visit as told to him by her. He knew that his wife got fifty rupees after the third visit. He received a letter from Amina when she was at Bombay, and he was at Baroda, in which there was an enclosure for the Gaekwar.

60. There were several letters§ put in that passed between Amina and Abdulla when they were residing in different places in 1874. Allusions are made in all of them to Salam, Eshwant Rao, or matters connected with the Baroda State. In letter D, dated the 29th of March 1874, written for Amina to Abdulla, the addressee is asked

\* No. 9.

† No. 6.

‡ No. 9.

§ Exhibits A, B, C, D.

whether he received the enclosure contained in Amina's preceding letter. Amina, Abdulla, and Abdul Rahman\* (*alias* Rahim Saheb), the writer of the letters for Amina, depose that this enclosure was a letter to the Gaekwar. Abdulla states that he gave the letter back to Amina on his meeting her at Bombay on his way to Mahableshwar, and there is no reason for doubting that Amina did write such a letter, the contents of which Abdul Rahman describes from memory as being a request to the Gaekwar for money, and a statement that there had been a dinner at the Governor's at Bombay where Amina had "made enquiries," ending with the words "do not be apprehensive." This letter to the Gaekwar is not forthcoming, but it is clear that it was never delivered to him. It is to be noted that Colonel Phayre deposes that when at Bombay in March 1874 he did go to lunch with the Governor.

61. We believe that Amina did pay the three visits above related, and that conversations of the character and to the general effect deposed to by her did take place between her and the Gaekwar.

62. When the case for the prosecution had been closed, a written statement† by the Gaekwar was put in by his Counsel. No witnesses were called on behalf of the Gaekwar, nor were any questions put to His Highness before the Commission. The important part of the statement is as follows:—"I never had, nor have I now, any personal enmity towards Colonel Phayre. It is true that I and my Ministers were convinced that, owing to the position taken up by Colonel Phayre during his residency, it would be impossible satisfactorily to carry out the reforms I had instituted, and was endeavouring to complete, in deference to the authoritative advice conveyed to me in the khureeta of the 25th of July 1874, consequent upon the report of the Commission of 1873. Acting on this conviction, and after a long and anxious deliberation with my Ministers, Messieurs Dadabhoy Nowrojee, Bala Mungesh Waglé, Hormusjee Ardasir Wadia, Kazi Shahabudeen and others, I caused the khureeta of the 2nd of November 1874 to be despatched to His Excellency the Governor-General through Colonel Phayre, and, notwithstanding his remonstrances, feeling assured that when the true state of affairs was placed before His Excellency the Viceroy, my appeal would be successful. This conviction was shared by all my Ministers, and was strengthened by our knowledge of the severe censure which had been passed on Colonel Phayre by the Bombay Government. The removal of Colonel Phayre on the 25th of November 1874 shows that our judgment was not erroneous. Thus, neither personal nor political motives existed to induce me to attempt the crime with which I am charged, and I solemnly declare that I never personally, or through any agent, procured, or asked the procurement of any poison whatsoever for the purpose of attempting the life of Colonel Phayre; that I never personally, or through any agent, directed any such attempt to be made; and I declare that the whole of the evidence of the Ayah Amina, of Raoji, Narsu, and Damodhar Trimback on this point is absolutely untrue. I declare that I never personally directed any of the Residency servants to act as spies on the Resident, or report to me what was going on at the Residency, nor did I ever offer or cause to be paid any money to them for such purposes. I say nothing as to the presents that may perhaps have been made to servants of the Residency on festive occasions, such as marriage and the like. Information on trifling matters going on both at the Residency or at my own Palace may have been mutually communicated, but I did not personally hold any intercourse with those servants for this purpose; nor am I personally cognizant of any payments for the same having been made, nor did I authorize any measures by which secrets of the Residency should be conveyed to me."

63. We have now given a summary of all the evidence that it was necessary to give for a comprehension of the case. Other portions of the evidence will be alluded to in the general remarks which we now proceed to offer.

34. We have stated our belief that poison was put into Colonel Phayre's glass of sherbet on the 9th of November 1874, and we have no doubt that it was so put with the intention of causing Colonel Phayre's death. We are further of opinion that there is good ground for the belief that previous attempts were made to poison Colonel Phayre between the latter end of September and the 9th of November; some of them being made by Raoji when he administered the three compound powders, and, had he not had a fear of putting in the full doses of arsenic, the probability is that Colonel Phayre would then have become seriously ill, even if his life had not been destroyed.

65. We have also stated our belief that the poison was put into the sherbet on the 9th of November by Raoji, acting in concert with Narsu, though Narsu was not actually present at the time the poison was mixed. We consider that Raoji and Narsu had no personal motive for wishing to injure their master by these attempts, and that they were instigated by some other person to make them, and it is our belief that the Gaekwar Mulhar Rao was the person who so instigated them. The evidence of Raoji, Narsu, and Damodhar Punt appears to us to prove this. The compound powers first administered by Raoji contained arsenic as one of the ingredients: the powder administered on the 9th of November contained arsenic and diamond dust, or pounded diamonds.

66. The motive that actuated the Gaekwar to give the poison was a strong feeling of hostility towards Colonel Phayre and a determination to get him removed. The kharita\* of the 2nd November 1874,

\* Letter—Exhibit No. 1.

written by Dadabhai Nauroji, the Gaekwar's Minister, in the name of the Gaekwar, to the Viceroy, abundantly shews the strong feeling which the Gaekwar entertained against Colonel Phayre.—“It had occurred to me ..... whether I should not solicit Your Excellency's attention to the position which the present Resident, Colonel Phayre, had all along taken up towards me, and to submit for Your Excellency's consideration whether with the want of sympathy which existed between us I could expect an unbiased and fair treatment at his hands in future.” It then alludes to the more determined and active opposition towards me and my administration than before,” and proceeds to give an account of two instances in which Colonel Phayre's conduct is criticised.

“These two instances which I have taken as representative ones can hardly give an idea of the harassing and vexatious treatment I am at present receiving at the Resident's hands.

“This attitude on the part of the British Representative has naturally become a source of serious anxiety to me, especially as in such times persons are not wanting who for their private ends take advantage of this state of things to misrepresent me, and to instigate continuous resistance to my authority among my subjects. The result will be a great loss of revenue this year, and a continuance of the unsettled state of the minds of the people. How seriously this state of affairs must embarrass and obstruct me in my intended reforms it is not difficult to conceive. Your Excellency knows well the extent and nature of the work before me, and I owe it to myself and those whom I have engaged for that work to submit how hopeless any efforts on my part would be if Colonel Phayre were to continue here as representative of the Paramount Power, with his uncompromising bias against me and my officials.

“I beg it to be understood that I do not impute other than conscientious motives to Colonel Phayre. But he is too far committed to a distinct line of policy, and to certain extreme views and opinions, and he naturally feels himself bound to support all and everything he has hitherto said or done.”

67. In reply to this letter, the Viceroy deemed it unnecessary to discuss the reasons given by His Highness for “desiring a change in the Baroda Residency;” but “after a careful consideration of the circumstances that have taken place, and, moreover, in pursuance of the determination of the Govern-



"ment of India to afford Your Highness every opportunity of inaugurating  
 \* Letter of 25th of Novem- "a new system of administration with success." His  
 ber 1874. Excellency\* communicated to the Gaekwar his deter-  
 mination to appoint Colonel Sir Lewis Pelly, K.C.S.I., to be Agent at Baroda in  
 place of Colonel Phayre.

68. It is perhaps unnecessary to shew by any further reference to the evidence on the record of this enquiry that the Gaekwar entertained strong feelings of hostility to Colonel Phayre. It is true that the Gaekwar, when spoken to by Colonel Phayre about the kharita of the 2nd of November, stated that Mr. Dadabhai Nauroji, the Minister, had written it, and that he (the Minister) was responsible for it. This, it is clear, was a subterfuge, and, as explained by Colonel Phayre to the Gaekwar, the object of allowing His Highness to select his own Minister was that he himself might be responsible for all communications sent to the Viceroy or the Bombay Government. Moreover, the Gaekwar in the written statement which he has put in before us admits that he did cause the kharita to be despatched. The absence of Colonel Phayre from the Gaekwar's nuptial ceremonies at Nausari, albeit in accordance with the orders of the Government of India, must have been displeasing to the Gaekwar. His allusion to the subject in his conversation with Amina can bear no other construction than that he was, to say the least, anxious on the subject of the marriage, and it cannot be doubted that his feelings on this head must have been intensified after the birth of the child.

69. It is difficult to distinguish political from personal dislike in the mind of the Gaekwar towards Colonel Phayre. There has been nothing elicited in this enquiry to show that there was any personal discourtesy exhibited by Colonel Phayre to the Gaekwar. The hostility between Colonel Phayre and His Highness arose entirely, so far as we can see, from differences of opinion in matters of State, but there can be no doubt that the dislike entertained by the Gaekwar was both political and personal, and we are unable to admit the correctness of his statement that he had no personal enmity towards Colonel Phayre.

70. The manner in which the communications opened by the Gaekwar with Raoji, Narsu, and the Ayah, Amina, culminated in a plot to poison the Resident has been shown in the evidence which we have summarized. At first in the end of 1873 and beginning of 1874 the Gaekwar's object was apparently only to obtain information of what went on in the Residency in reference to the affairs of the Baroda State. He kept the strings entirely in his own hands, using as his agents Salam and Eshwant Rao, and keeping even his Private Secretary, Damodhar Punt, ignorant of what was going on. He dealt with Amina separately from Raoji and Narsu. At last when he had become exasperated at the refusal of the Resident to acknowledge the marriage with Lakshmi Bai and the birth of her son, the idea of using poison was entertained and carried out. The inducement held out to Raoji and Narsu was personal advancement and remuneration, of which they had received a considerable guarantee in the payments that had been made to them when as yet the ostensible object of their employment was simply to obtain information of what passed at the Residency. Raoji received in the end of 1873 Rs. 500 from the Gaekwar on the occasion of his (Raoji's) marriage. Subsequently, in May or June 1874, he received a further sum of Rs. 300 as a present on the occasion of the Gaekwar's marriage, making a total sum of Rs. 800. Narsu got Rs. 300 on the latter occasion as a present for the Nausari marriage, and Rs. 250 he had received without any specification of the cause, making a total of Rs. 550. These sums, even after allowing for the difference in value of Baroda and Queen's rupees, were absolutely large, considering the small rates of pay received by Raoji and Narsu at the Residency, and the same remark applies to the Rs. 150 which the Ayah received on two occasions in 1874, the first occasion being on account of

the Gaekwar's marriage, and the second, when Rs. 50 were given, being after the Ayah's last visit in October 1874, and unconnected with any special event. We have no hesitation in expressing our opinion that these presents were given to these servants to induce them to give from time to time information about what passed at the Residency relating to the affairs of the Gaekwar, and that they were not the ordinary presents which His Highness might be expected, in accordance with custom, to give on occasions of rejoicing to the servants of the Resident. We should consider payments made under such circumstances to be bribes, but we are unable to say that the Gaekwar regarded them in the same light.

71. But, it may be asked, would the Gaekwar expect Raoji and Narsu to commit a murder for a sum so incommensurate with the work to be done? To this, it may be replied that the Gaekwar had bound them to himself by the payments he had made, and by acts of visiting the palace and giving information which he had caused them to do, and that he had given a promise of large reward in the event of success. Raoji describes the promise as of a lakh of rupees to him, and of a similar sum to Narsu. Narsu describes the promise as of a provision for life for themselves and their families. To poor men already committed to the Gaekwar, these promises doubtless appeared a sufficient inducement to get rid of Colonel Phayre in, as they thought, a way that would not be instantaneous, and therefore likely to lead to their detection, but by a gradual and slow process.

72. The conduct of the Gaekwar on or after the 9th of November 1874 is not consistent with the view of his innocence. The evidence of Damodhar Punt leads to the belief that the Gaekwar knew that the attempt to poison had been made when His Highness visited Colonel Phayre at 10 o'clock that morning. But even if he had not known of it then, he must have known it before the evening of that day. Colonel Phayre and other witnesses have deposed that the fact of the poison having been given was commonly known in the Baroda Camp on the 9th of November. The city is not a mile from the camp. Salam had been at the Residency that morning, and had been told by Raoji that the business had been done. It is not conceivable that Salam, who was in constant attendance on the Gaekwar, should have failed to inform his master of what had been done, and yet we find the Gaekwar visiting Colonel Phayre

on the following Thursday\* for the first time after Monday, the 9th of November, and then stating that he had heard the report of the attempt at poisoning on the previous day, the 11th, and it was not till the 14th November that the following† letter was written:—

\* 12th November.

† Exhibit H.

“At a personal interview with you the day before yesterday, I learnt from you the particulars about the attempt made by some bad man to poison you, for which I am very sorry. But it was the favor of God that his cruel design did not meet with success. If it becomes necessary to obtain my assistance in proving this criminal's guilt, the same will be given. This is written for your information. Dated 14th of November 1874.”

73. The question naturally arises why should the Gaekwar, having sent the kharita of the 2nd of November 1874, have taken in hand the plan for getting rid of Colonel Phayre by poison? Supposing the kharita to have been a *bona fide* endeavour to obtain a change of Residents, the only answer that can be given to the question is that the sending of the kharita may have been suggested by Mr. Dadabhai Nauroji, by whom it was prepared, and who was of course ignorant of the poisoning scheme. The Gaekwar, it may be presumed, would have at once approved of the suggestion.

74. The course that the Gaekwar might have been expected to take, had he been innocent of complicity, was to at once hasten to Colonel Phayre and express his concern, and to make repeated inquiries after his health. He might have been expected to send a letter expressing his indignation at the occurrence and his extreme regret that his hospitality had been violated by so vile an

attempt in his own territory. His feelings of dislike to Colonel Phayre might have been expected to make him doubly solicitous to put himself clear with the British Government in the matter. Instead of this, he holds back, and, after considerable delay, sends a cold and formal letter. This conduct could hardly be explained on any other supposition than that of his having instigated the act of poisoning. We are compelled to regard the Gaekwar's denial of such investigation as being unworthy of credence.

75. With reference to the suggestion which has been thrown out that Damodhar Punt may have set on foot the plot for poisoning Colonel Phayre in order to hide his own delinquencies, we observe that there is no evidence to shew that Damodhar Punt had been guilty of any act which he desired to conceal from the Gaekwar, or that he had any motive for desiring Colonel Phayre's death or removal from Baroda. It is not shewn that Damodhar Punt had embezzled any of his master's property. His answer to the inquiry how he could justify himself with the Gaekwar in regard to the sums devoted to payments for secret service seems to us to be sufficient, *viz.*, that the receipt of the payee was affixed to the order for payment, although the order was so framed as to hide the real nature of the transaction. The only exception to this rule that has come to our notice is in the case of the Exhibit T1. But, even supposing that Damodhar Punt had been guilty of malversation, it is unreasonable to suppose that he was not perfectly well aware that it was beyond the scope of Colonel Phayre's power to make any inquiry into the transactions which he conducted in his capacity of Private Secretary to the Gaekwar.

76. A further suggestion has been raised that Bhau Poonekar, who may be admitted to have been unfriendly to the Gaekwar, got up the appearance of an attempt to poison Colonel Phayre, in order to bring the Gaekwar to trouble, or to prevent the removal of Colonel Phayre.

This suggestion might have been deserving of some consideration, had the attempt been a feigned attempt; but in point of fact the attempt was made with every intention of its being successful, and it was only the accident of Colonel Phayre failing to drink the whole of the sherbet on the 9th of November that prevented a fatal result.

77. Regarding the case from every point of view, we are unable to find any sufficient reason which would justify our declaring the Gaekwar not guilty of the offences imputed to him.

78. The Maharajas of Gwalior and Jeypoor and Raja Sir Dinkur Rao do not concur in the view we have taken of this case. We have considered the reasons for their opinions as contained in the separate reports which each of those Members of the Commission has rendered. We believe that the evidence, after making every reasonable allowance on the score of the character of the witnesses, proves—

- 1st.—That an attempt to poison Colonel Phayre was made by persons instigated thereto by Mulhar Rao, Gaekwar.
- 2nd.—That the said Mulhar Rao, Gaekwar, did by his agents and in person hold secret communications with some of the servants employed by Colonel Phayre, the Resident at Baroda, or attached to the Residency.
- 3rd.—That the said Mulhar Rao, Gaekwar, caused monies to be given to some of those servants.
- 4th.—That his purposes in holding such communications and causing such monies to be given were,—1st, to obtain information of what passed at the Residency relating to himself and the affairs of his State; and, 2nd, to cause injury to Colonel Phayre by means of poison.

BOMBAY, }  
March 31st, 1875. }

R. COUCH.  
R. J. MEADE.  
P. S. MELVILL.



*Opinion of HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA JEEAJEE RAO SCINDIA ALIJAH  
BAHADOOR, G.C.S.I., in the case of the MAHARAJA MULHAR RAO  
GAEKWAR of Baroda.*

As to the attempt at poisoning, from the whole case as it came before me, as far as my judgment and belief go, I am not convinced that the charge is proved against Mulhar Rao.

There appears to me no sufficient proof of the purchase of diamonds, arsenic, or copper, or document, signed by the Gaekwar for the payment of monies, for the above purposes, but Damodhar Punt's statement. Nor indeed is there any paper whatsoever, signed by the Gaekwar, involving him in this matter.

Out of a large number of persons connected with this case, only three witnesses,—Raoji, Narsu, and Damodhar Punt,—have given their evidence in reference to the above charge. All these widely differ in their statements; and the reasons are given in the proceedings. How could they be considered trustworthy? The evidence of Pedro, the butler, and Abdulla, and the non-production of Salam, Yeshwant Rao, Khanvelkar, Gujaba, Nurudin Borah, and the Hakim, are in favour of the accused. Further, it is far from my belief, that the measures for poisoning should have continued so long a time, and in so open a manner.

Such an act is performed by one or two confidentials, and not by such a large number of people.

Now, when a small quantity of poison, once administered, could put an end to a man's life, there appears to be no reason why it was given and drank so repeatedly. I see no grounds to reject the chief arguments of the able gentleman Serjeant Ballantine. It is a fact worthy of consideration that Mulhar Rao made no hesitation whatsoever in handing over Salam and Yeshwant Rao at once to Sir Lewis Pelly, and expressed his desire to give him every assistance in his power.

As regards the communication with servants night or day, this is no matter of importance. These visits and requests for presents on marriage and other festive occasions, and the means to secure the favour of the Resident, as well as the procuring of information regarding each other, are matters in accordance with the practice of other Native Princes and persons who have connection with the Residency.

In conclusion, I remark that the chief points for enquiry are—

1st.—Attempt to poison.

2nd.—Tampering with the servants.

My opinion on the above subjects I place before you.

BOMBAY; }  
March 27th, 1875.

*Vernacular signature of His Highness  
the Maharaja of Gwalior.*

*Opinion of HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF JEYPOOR, G.C.S.I.*

AFTER carefully considering the nature of the evidence placed before the Commission in regard to the offences imputed against His Highness Mulhar Rao Gaekwar of Baroda, I have the following remarks to submit.

The statements made by Amina Ayah and several other Residency servants establish the fact that sums of money had actually been given to the Ayah and to other servants of the Residency at different times, by order of His Highness the Gaekwar. These sums of money, however, do not appear to have been given, out of any motives to tamper with the Residency servants

for improper purposes, but simply as presents from the Gaekwar, and such as are generally given on occasions of marriage and national festivals.

With regard to the graver charge against the Gaekwar, Raoji Havildar states that he did put poison into Colonel Phayre's tumbler of sherbet, as the Gaekwar had instigated him to do, and that a packet of poison was handed over to him by Narsu. Narsu says he had received the packet from Salam, the Gaekwar's sowar, and that he made it over to Raoji Havildar. On the other hand, Damodhar Punt, the Gaekwar's so-called Private Secretary, states that the Maharaja had ordered him to procure arsenic and diamonds, and that he had instructions from His Highness to give the arsenic to Salam and the diamonds to Yeshwant Rao, the Gaekwar's Jassoos. Salam and Yeshwant Rao, who, according to Damodhar Punt's statement, are to be regarded as the connecting links between himself and Narsu in the above affair, were not produced before the Commission, and there is no means of ascertaining whether they made any statements on the subject before the Bombay Police. Further, there is no evidence as to their having conveyed packets of poison from Damodhar Punt to Narsu, excepting the bare assertions of the two accomplices—Damodhar and Narsu.

Damodhar Punt's statement, as to his having procured arsenic and diamonds, is not confirmed by any corroborative evidence. He says the diamonds were procured through Nanaji Vithal, Darogah of the Gaekwar's jewel department. Nanaji, it is stated, purchased them from Hemchand Fattchchand, the jewellers; but Hemchand declared before the Commission that diamonds were not purchased of him, though he had submitted some for inspection. These, he says, were returned to him by Nanaji. Antmaram, who is a Karkoon in the Gaekwar's State jewel room, also stated before the Commission that the diamonds tendered by Hemchand were not approved, and therefore returned to him.

Nurudin Borah from whom arsenic is said to have been procured was not brought before the Commission. It was however admitted by Akbar Ali Khan Bahadur of the Bombay Police in the course of his cross-examination by Serjeant Ballantine that the Borah was kept in confinement. It is therefore to be inferred that the Borah was far from confirming Damodhar Punt's statement with regard to the purchase of arsenic.

The several *yads*, or official memoranda, produced before the Commission out of the records of the private office under Damodhar Punt, do not show any specific sums of money having been paid for diamonds, or for poison of any kind. The sums mentioned in the *yads* were for giving feasts to Brahmins and other charitable and useful purposes. There is sufficient evidence also to prove that these sums were actually spent in such purposes.

Damodhar Punt also mentions a bottle containing some poisonous liquid, prepared of "large ants, snakes, and the urine of a black horse." This poisonous liquid, according to Damodhar's statement, was prepared by a Hakim, and sent to Damodhar's house through one Gújaba, a servant of Khanvelkar, the Maharaja's brother-in-law. Neither the Hakim nor Gújaba was placed in the witness-box, so it is unknown what these men had to say. It appears from the above circumstances that there is hardly any statement of Damodhar Punt with regard to purchase of poisons that has any ground to stand upon, excepting Damodhar Punt's own evidence.

Copper is also mentioned as having been one of the poisonous ingredients put into Colonel Phayre's sherbet, but no clue whatever can be obtained as to who introduced it into the tumbler of sherbet, nor is it detected by the analyses of Doctors Seward and Gray.

The three witnesses, Damodhar Punt, Raoji, and Narsu, whose testimony is considered to form the basis of this grave charge against the Gaekwar, are accomplices, and their evidence is not corroborated by a single respectable witness, nor is their evidence altogether free from suspicion of falsehood.

Moreover, two of these accomplices made their statements under promise of pardon. In consideration of all these circumstances, I know not what degree of importance to attach to their evidence.

No documentary evidence, or evidence of a convincing nature, was forthcoming from Damodhar Punt, notwithstanding his position as Private Secretary to the Gaekwar and the command he had over the records of the Maharaja's private office.

Raoji and Narsu, the other two accomplices, who state they had direct intercourse with the Maharaja, and they were asked by His Highness to poison Colonel Phayre, contradict each other in some important points. For instance, Raoji states that the Gaekwar had promised to give him, as well as to Narsu, a lac of rupees each for poisoning Colonel Phayre. Narsu, on the other hand, expresses utter ignorance of any such promise having been made by the Gaekwar. Another important statement of Raoji is strongly contradicted by Pedro, and Raoji states, that packets of poison were given to Pedro and others by the Maharaja, and, while Pedro stoutly denies what Raoji alleges, no clue can be obtained as to who the others were.

Besides the above circumstances, the facts elicited by Serjeant Ballantine in the course of cross-examination of the witnesses, as well as the features of the evidence pointed out by that gentleman, are, in my estimation, weighty and deserving of consideration.

For reasons stated above, I cannot persuade myself to believe that the Gaekwar was in any way implicated in the charge, notwithstanding the fact of poison having been found in Colonel Phayre's tumbler of sherbet, and the uncorroborated evidence of the three accomplices—Raoji, Narsu, and Damodhar Punt.

RAM SING.

BOMBAY;  
March 27th, 1875. }

*Opinion of RAJA SIR DINKAR RAO, K.C.S.I.,—dated Bombay, the 26th of March 1875, in the case of MAHARAJA MULHAR RAO GAEKWAR of Baroda.*

As to the attempt at poisoning, from the whole case as it came on before me, I am not convinced, as far as my judgment and belief go, that the charge is proved against Maharaja Mulhar Rao. No proof of the purchase of diamonds, arsenic, or copper, or of the preparations of the poisons, no use of money (even of a rupee) in regard thereto, and no document in the handwriting of the Maharaja or other papers about the poisons, although his Private Secretary, Damodhar Punt, became against him. Out of a large number of persons connected with the case, only three witnesses, viz., Raoji, Narsu, and Damodhar Punt, have given their evidence in reference to the above charge. All these three differ in their statements. Damodhar Punt's statement as to the purchase of diamonds is disproved by the evidence of Hemchand and Atmaram. He stated that he had not opened the packets to see the diamonds and arsenic. Damodhar's name has not been mentioned either by Raoji or Narsu. It is stated by Damodhar Punt himself, that he made his statement owing to the troubles he suffered from his having remained in the custody of European soldiers for sixteen days, his object being to get himself rid by making statements of some kind. The statements of Raoji and Colonel Phayre differ with regard to the putting in of the poison on the alleged dates. Raoji states, that he got the bottle from the Maharaja, while Damodhar states that he gave it to Salam. Again, Raoji says that he put the packets into his belt, while Damodhar deposes that, in order to burn the packets, Salam ran to Raoji's house, where Raoji also followed. Raoji further says that the Maharaja gave the packets to "Pedro, me, and others."



Pedro, has entirely denied to have received any packets. Who and how many men were the "others?" Raoji states that the Maharaja promised to pay a lakh of rupees each, while Narsu denies this. From Raoji's statement it appears that he got the bottle about a month and a half before the 9th of November, whereas from what Narsu has stated, it seems that the bottle was got only a few days before that date. Narsu says "all the other servants caused Faizu's name to be written down in the depositions, and I did the same, though I knew it to be false. The three witnesses having become against their masters, and two of them having been granted a pardon, how could their statements be considered to be trustworthy? The evidence of Pedro, the butler, and Abdulla, the sherbet-maker (the residency servants), and the non-production of Salam, Yeshwant Rao, Khanwelkar, Gujaba, Nurudin Borah, and the Hakim, are in favour of the accused. Further, it is far from belief that the measures for poisoning should have continued for a long time, and in so open a manner. Such an act is done by one or two confidentials, and not by a multitude, and when a small quantity of poison, if once administered would put an end to a man's life, there appears to be no reason why it was given and drunk so repeatedly. These with other particulars are developed in the proceedings, and the chief arguments of the able gentleman, Serjeant Ballantine, are deserving of consideration.

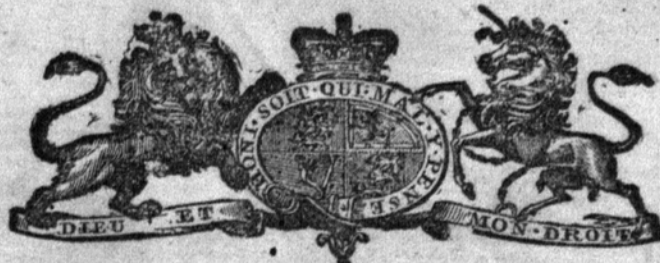
As regards the communication with servants at night or day, it is not an important matter. Their visits and requests for presents on festive and marriage occasions, &c., and the means used to secure the favour of the Resident, as well as the procuring of informations regarding each other (the Prince and the Resident), are matters in accordance with the practice of the other Native Princes and persons, who have connection with the Residency.

In conclusion, I beg to submit, that the chief points for enquiry being the attempt at poisoning, and communication with servants, I have expressed my opinion on them as above.

DINKAR RAO.

C. U. AITCHISON,

*Secretary to the Government of India.*



# The Gazette of India,

## EXTRAORDINARY.

Published by Authority.

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CALCUTTA, THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1875.

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### HOME DEPARTMENT.

#### NOTIFICATION.

PUBLIC.

No. 741.

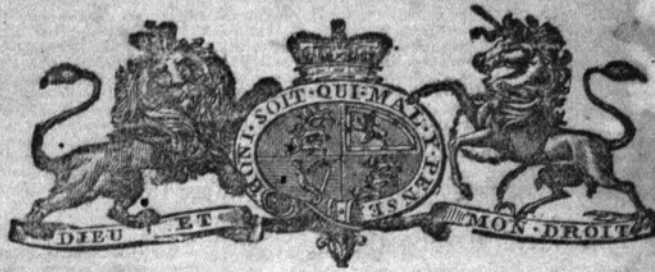
*Simla, the 29th April 1875.*

THE Governor General in Council has received from Madras, with the deepest regret, the melancholy intelligence of the death, on the 27th instant, of His Excellency the Right Honorable VERE HENRY HOBART, LORD HOBART, the Governor of that Presidency.

• As a mark of respect for the memory of this most eminent public servant, the Governor General in Council has directed that seventeen minute guns be fired from the ramparts of Fort William at noon to-day, and that the Fort flag be lowered to half-mast high.

By order of the Governor General of India in Council,

ARTHUR HOWELL,  
*Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.*



# The Gazette of India,

## EXTRAORDINARY.

Published by Authority.

SIMLA, THURSDAY, MAY 13, 1875.

### FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

#### NOTIFICATION.

##### ACCOUNTS.

No. 519.

*Simla, the 13th May 1875.*

HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HON'BLE THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL has resolved to borrow two crores and fifty lakhs of rupees for the public service in the manner following:—

2. Promissory Notes will be issued for the said amount, bearing interest at the rate of four per centum per annum. The form and conditions of these Notes will be those of the Notes of the Transfer Loan of 1st May 1865, of which loan they will form a part. No Note will be issued for less than five hundred rupees, or for any amount not being a multiple of one hundred rupees. The Notes will be payable to order, and interest thereon will be paid, half-yearly, on the 1st May and 1st November in each year.

3. Notice is hereby given that tenders will be received by the Comptroller General, at Calcutta, from this date to noon of Wednesday the 16th June next, for the whole or part of the above-named sum of two crores and fifty lakhs of rupees.

4. Each tender must be addressed, in the form annexed to this Notification, to the Comptroller General, Treasury Buildings, Calcutta, and enclosed in a sealed cover superscribed "Tender for Loan."

5. Tenders will be opened at the Office of the Comptroller General in Calcutta, at noon on Wednesday the 16th June next.



6. The amounts of accepted tenders must be paid, in five equal instalments, on the following dates—

One-fifth on the 1st July 1875.

One-fifth on the 2nd August 1875.

One-fifth on the 1st September 1875.

One-fifth on the 1st October 1875.

One-fifth on the 1st November 1875.

Payment of any instalment except the first, will be accepted before the due date, but not before the 1st July next. Interest upon the amount of each instalment paid before the 1st November next, will be paid in advance, from the date when such instalment is received, to the 31st October next.

7. Payment may be made to the account of the Government in one of the Presidency Banks of Bengal, Madras, or Bombay, or into any Government treasury or treasuries in India that may be named in the tenders.

8. Each tender must be accompanied by a receipt from one of the Presidency Banks of Bengal, Madras, or Bombay, or from an officer in charge of some Government treasury, or by a cheque on a banker in Calcutta, Madras, or Bombay, or by Government Promissory Notes duly endorsed to the Comptroller General, for a sum of not less than one per centum on the amount for which tender is made. This deposit of one per centum will be considered as in part payment of the last instalment; it will be forfeited if the allotment is not fully taken up. A cash deposit may, after allotment, be exchanged for a Government Promissory Note.

9. Scrip receipts for instalments paid, will be given by the Presidency Banks of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay, or by the officers in charge of the treasuries at which payment is made. These receipts will be exchanged for Promissory Notes, as soon as possible.

10. The minimum rate at which tenders will be accepted will be recorded under the signature of the Comptroller General, and declared before any tender is opened. The rate stated in a tender must not contain a fraction of an anna; if a rate containing a fraction of an anna is inserted in any tender, such fraction will be struck out, and the tender treated as if the rate did not contain such fraction of an anna.

11. Tenders at the declared minimum rate, and at rates above the declared minimum, will be accepted in the order of the rates tendered, beginning with the highest rates. The amount allotted at the lowest rate at which tenders are accepted, will be divided amongst those who have tendered at this rate, in proportion, as nearly as may be found convenient, to the amounts of their tenders.

12. The names of the persons whose tenders are accepted in whole or in part, will be posted, for general information, at the Presidency Banks of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay.

By order of the Governor General in Council.

R. B. CHAPMAN,  
*Secretary to the Govt. of India.*

FORM OF TENDER.

I hereby tender for rupees \_\_\_\_\_ of the Loan advertised in the Notification published in the *Gazette of India* Extraordinary dated the 13th May 1875, and agree to pay for the same, subject to the conditions specified, at the rate of rupees \_\_\_\_\_ annas\* \_\_\_\_\_ for every hundred rupees allotted to me.

I enclose a *deposit receipt*† for rupees \_\_\_\_\_, and engage, if my tender be accepted, to pay to the account of the Government of India the Presidency Bank of \_\_\_\_\_ [or into the Government treasury at \_\_\_\_\_ as the case may be] the first instalment on the 1st July next, and the several later instalments on or before the dates fixed by the Notification, as follows:—

One-fifth on the 1st July 1875.  
One-fifth on the 2nd August 1875.  
One-fifth on the 1st September 1875.  
One-fifth on the 1st October 1875.  
One-fifth on the 1st November 1875.

*Note.*—A separate tender must be made at each rate tendered, a separate deposit must accompany each tender. In order to avoid mistake it is desirable that the tender, or, at least, the name of the tenderer, and the amount and rate tendered, should be written in English.

R. B. CHAPMAN,  
Secretary to the Government of India